

NID-Bits

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

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Mark Your Calendars!

by LWML NID President Gayle Thanepohn

Happy 2023, LWML NID!

I am sharing with you the 2-Minute Tuesday article I wrote, which appeared on the LWML Constant Contact board for the district presidents, executive committee, and others at the national level.

Celebrate the Lord of the Nations

As I read our Goal Statement for the 2023 LWML Convention, “As His children, we celebrate the Lord of the nations,” the word celebrate grabbed my attention. Who doesn’t love a celebration! An opportunity to celebrate OUR LORD will be in Milwaukee, June 22–25.



There will be many ways to celebrate at the convention. Worship services with thousands of LWML members and friends, opportunities to hear from missionaries sharing their passion and celebrating their work, networking and celebrating with LWML members from across the nation, participating with other women in servant events, and celebrating with entertainment!

Many of you have attended conventions in the past. Many of you have friends and fellow LWML members who have never attended a convention. Now is the time to encourage them to register for the 40th Biennial LWML Convention and book their accommodations.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man (Psalm 33:12-13 ESV).

Right now we are all about the 2023 Biennial Convention in Milwaukee. NID is one of the three hosting districts for the convention, so my ‘LWML Time’ is split between district business and convention details. I just got back from the President’s Assembly in Milwaukee, which included a walking tour of the Wisconsin Convention Center; it is a great place for the LWML Convention and Milwaukee is rolling out the “purple” carpet for us in June. So, if you do not want to experience FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out), you need to register! Check the center of the Winter *Quarterly* or go to lwml.org/2023-convention for all the details, prices, deadlines, housing information, etc. Please contact me or your zone president if you need assistance in registering as it is all on-line. Zone delegate applications need to be either emailed or sent via USPS to me ASAP as I need to register you as a delegate. It’s not too late to help out at convention as a worker. Included in the NID BITS is a current Volunteer Application.

We are headed into Zone Rally Season. Be sure to submit your Zone Rally Information Sheet by March 15th. I look forward to attending as many as I can. If I cannot, you will have a representative from the Executive Committee there to present current LWML NID information and answer your questions.

Read the information about the NID Lenten Inspiration. Register your friends and carpool! This is a special event for our district and is always a wonderful time of fellowship and refocusing during the Lenten Season.

Another event that is approaching in April is the LCMS NID’s SHINE! Servant Event. The Northern Illinois District has designated April 14-23 as the time for groups to go out and SHINE! in your communities with the love of Jesus. (There is a list of ideas on page 9.) Go to nidlcms.org/shine/ for more details. I encourage you and your friends to participate in this experience.



Blessings to all as we enter the Lenten Season,

Gayle Thanepohn, LWML NID President



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.

Celebrate the Lord of the Nations This June

By Anne Hartman, Chairman of the Host Committee for the Milwaukee Convention

Welcome, 2023! Yikes—that means it is convention year! That is hard to believe because I feel like there is still so much to be done! Yet it is exciting to know that we are only five months away from Celebrating the Lord of the Nations.

Just a few reminders.

- Please sign up to volunteer at the convention. WE NEED YOU—MEN AND WOMEN!
- If you registered in January, you only paid \$60 for convention registration with your eight hours of volunteering. Registering in February and beyond makes the convention registration fee is \$80 with your eight hours of volunteer time.
- Registration is all online this year. This is new. When you register, you will mark box K—Host District Worker. This will ensure you get the discount.
- Registration information is in the winter edition of *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.
- All convention information for you as a member of one of the Host Districts can be found here: <https://www.lwml-swd.org/events/other>
- Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. You can email, call, or text me.

Finally, I want to share how exciting it is to be able to be a Host District. We have a real honor in sharing our state with the men and women of our church.

Serving Him,
Anne Hartman
annehartman@gmail.com
715-450-0681

The printable Volunteer Form starts on page 11.



Lenten Inspiration—March 18, 2023



Rev. Dr. Peter

By Kirsten Smith, Vice President of Christian Life

Join us on March 18th from 9 a.m.—2 p.m. for the Lenten Inspiration! It is at St. John's in LaGrange! Come hear from Rev. Dr. Allan Buss and Rev. Dr. David Peter about how we have hope in Jesus our Savior! We will also have worship and prayer time!

The in-gathering collection is for the childcare team at the convention! Help support the children at the convention!



Rev. Dr. Buss
NID President

Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Subscriptions

The *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* subscription renewal form was emailed to current subscription holders' group contacts at the end of January. The yearly subscription prices for 2023-24 are the same as last year. They are:

- 1-9 copies mailed to a single address: \$7.50 per subscription per year
- 10 or more copies to a single address: \$6.00 per subscription per year

If your society contact did not receive the emailed *Quarterly* renewal notice by February 1, 2023, you have two options:

- Use the subscription form provided on page 10.
- Contact Jan Gerzevske, LWML NID Corresponding Secretary, to request that another form be emailed to you.

correspondingsecretary@lwmlnid.org

Please provide your Zone Number, Church Name, and Church Address.

The renewal form WITH PAYMENT must be postmarked no later than Saturday, April 1, 2023, to be included as part of the order required by LWML in St. Louis for the 2023-24 subscription year. Please retain a copy of both the subscription renewal form and the check for your group's records.

After April 1st, groups **cannot cancel nor decrease** their number of subscriptions.

For those interested in obtaining large print or Braille Quarterlies, a separate subscription can be set up by contacting the Lutheran Braille Workers directly at 909-795-8977.

2022-2024 NID Mission Grants

The delegates to the LWML NID Convention last September 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.

NID-Bits Book Club — *The End of the Magi*

By Miss Paige Turner

The following containers Spoilers for the featured book.

The End of the Magi

by Patrick W. Carr (Bethany House, 2019)

I enjoyed this imagining of the magi's journey to worship Jesus. I tend to think that the real magi's trip was less perilous, as they were hopefully not being pursued, but it made for an exciting book plot! I also liked the idea, even if it is pure supposition, that the magi who visited the child Jesus could have witnessed the events of Holy Week and Pentecost.

There were a few instances when the story failed to align with the truth of the biblical account, such as having Herod not know they were going to Bethlehem (he's the one who told them to go there) and having the magi warn Joseph to flee (he was warned by an angel.) It also seems unlikely that the gifts presented to Jesus would have been bought with stolen funds. Overall, though, I appreciated seeing the Christmas and Easter stories play out through the eyes of those lacking the benefit of scriptural hindsight.

There have been times when I have wondered—unfairly—how the disciples and others didn't catch on to fact that Jesus had to die. *The End of the Magi* does a good job of examining how the Old Testament prophecies are not nearly so clear without the benefit of seeing them—seeming contradictions and all—fulfilled in Jesus. For instance, how could the Messiah both be “cut off” and reign over His kingdom? It helps to know that His is not an earthly kingdom!

Along similar lines, this story reminded me to be grateful for the blessing of having easy access to Scripture. Whereas I have limitless access to the Bible at home, at church, and even at the library, there were first-century synagogues that lacked a complete Tanakh (Old Testament). Esai brought Walagash into the profitable silk trade in exchange for a Torah—only the first five books of the Bible! For decades Myrad kept the calendar without knowing the rest of the Messianic prophecies. It's hard for me to fathom how limiting a lack of access to Scripture would be.

A theme woven throughout *The End of the Magi* is that God's plans do not always align with human expectations. Of course, this comes through in the characters' surprise about Jesus's life, but Myrad says this in regards to himself: “It's almost as if God takes delight in accomplishing His ends in the most unlikely way possible.” (p. 313) By human reasoning, Myrad shouldn't have played any role in the magi's journey, but God put him right in the thick of things! The same could be said of Myrad and Roshan's personal lives. No one would have expected the disabled son of a melon seller to marry into a family of silk merchants, but God brought them together, and decades later Myrad will use his travels and connections to spread the Good News of Jesus.

Thank you for joining the NID-Bits Book Club! I hope that you (and your book buddies) enjoyed *The End of the Magi* and will continue to follow along on our bookish adventures.

Will you read with us?



Society Spotlight: Women of Faith Lake Forest

In this issue, we are highlighting some of the many 2022 activities of the Women of Faith group. Thank you to Jan B. for sharing all of the goings-on at Faith Lake Forest!

Last April saw the resumption of Women of Faith's monthly meetings. They started their morning discussing *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23* by W. Phillip Keller, then enjoyed lunch. They finished the meeting with a service project: archiving decades of photographs from the LWML NID Archive.

The Tuesday Tie-ers resumed meeting twice per month to make tied quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). LWR sends these tangible messages of care to people affected by natural disasters throughout the world.

Women's Ministry celebrated Mother's Day by presenting each woman who attended services that weekend with a beautifully scented handmade sachet, in recognition of her faith and service.

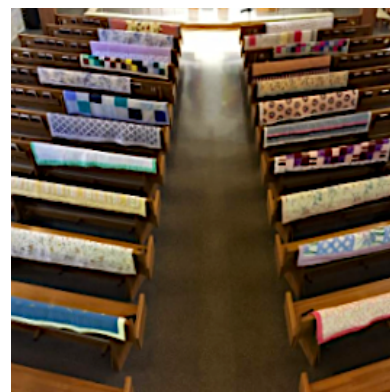
In June Women of Faith enjoyed an evening of fellowship and service as they created framed art for Faith's Members-to-Visit (homebound members). As part of the festivities, the ladies performed a laying-on-of-hands blessing for one of their members in preparation for her mission trip to Acuña, Mexico, with Casas por Cristo. They also presented her with a quilt to be given to the family for whom she helped build a house.

Assisting with the creation of the art were the ladies of Faith's Mailbox Members service team. Like all congregations, Faith has a number of women who feel called to serve, but have limited ability to be away from their homes. In response, Women's Ministry organizers have invited those ladies to join Faith's Mailbox Members service team. Team members are provided with all of the supplies and instructions needed to complete service projects from the comfort of their homes, as their schedules permit.

Arlene, one of Faith's members, along with her husband, Dick, repurposes each week's altar flowers into bouquets for those Members-to-Visit who are having birthdays.

In March one of Faith's members, Cheryl, met with students from North Chicago Community High School as part of a career Q&A presented by Faith at the high school. She told them about her diverse nursing career, having served in a hospital, clinics, and a nursing home. "Nursing is about people." She encouraged them that while nursing requires some schooling, especially in the sciences, it doesn't require perfect grades, and that there are grants and loans available to those who "go and look for it."

If your group is looking for new ideas, we hope that these events inspire you!



New NID Mites Address for 2022-2024

Please make **checks payable to: LWML NID**.

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 District office has been sold, so please send or deliver cancelled postage stamps to:

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

Calendar

- March 11, 2023 — LWML NID Lenten Inspiration **Registration Deadline**
- March 18, 2023 — LWML NID **Lenten Inspiration** (see p. 4)
- April 1, 2023 — *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* **Subscription Deadline** (see pp. 4 and 10)
- April 14-23, 2023 — NID **SHINE! Servant Event** (see pp. 2 and 9)
- June 22-25, 2023 — LWML **National Convention** in Milwaukee, WI (see pp. 3 and 11-13)
- June 26-29, 2025 — LWML **National Convention** in Omaha, NE

Announcements

- 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/>
 - 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

40 Ways to *SHINE!*

Before undertaking these acts of service, please contact the organization you'd like to partner with to make sure your service is welcome.

- Bake cookies and snacks for local food pantries
 - Make lunches for the needy
 - Hold a popsicle give-away at a park
 - Volunteer at a local food pantry
 - Hold a "Donut Event" for those who serve our communities (police and fire stations, dentists, doctors' offices, nurses' stations at hospitals)
 - Pick up litter at a shopping center
 - Clean up a park
 - Clean up the school grounds of a local school
 - Rake leaves, mow lawns, and clean up the yard of a shut-in/elderly person
 - Wash windows at a shut-in's house
 - Paint playground equipment at a park
 - Collect and deliver non-perishable food items to a local food pantry
 - Collect and donate hygiene products for local shelters
 - Collect school supplies for a local school
 - Ask a local school what needs their families have
 - Collect blankets, sheets, and newspaper for local animal shelters
 - Assemble first aid kits for local shelters
 - Volunteer at your local library
 - Volunteer at a local nonprofit
 - Hold a blood drive
 - Hold a free car wash
 - Hold a car wash and donate proceeds to a local charity
 - Hold a concert for the community
 - Make birthday cards and party bags for children in shelters
 - Collect materials and make book bags for the pediatric wing of a local hospital or doctor's office
 - Write letters or send cards to seniors in care facilities
 - Write letters or send cards to service men and women
 - Color pictures for troops or seniors
 - Place door hangars that have Bible passages on neighborhood doors
 - Host a bingo event or play other games at a local shelter or nursing home
 - Sponsor a bike-a-thon; learn bike safety
 - Read to residents at a local nursing home or shelter
 - Care for children while parents enjoy a day or evening out
 - Host a sing-along or devotion time at a nursing home
 - Make quilts or blankets for children in hospitals, foster care, or shelters
 - Host a dinner for your neighbors
 - Provide water bottles to commuters at the train station
 - Partner with a local YMCA and help with events they hold
 - Complete minor repairs for a shut-in/elderly person
 - Your own way to *SHINE!*
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- Your own way to *SHINE!*
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- Your own way to *SHINE!*
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2023 - 2024 LUTHERAN WOMAN'S QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

Use this form to order your 2023-2024 *Quarterly* subscriptions. Please enter the number of subscriptions you are requesting beginning with the Summer 2023 issue on the order form below.

The form WITH PAYMENT must be postmarked no later than Saturday, April 1, 2023, to be included as part of the order required by LWML in St. Louis for the 2023-2024 subscription year. Please keep a copy of form & check for your records.

After April 1st societies **cannot cancel nor decrease** their number of subscriptions.

QUESTIONS? Contact Jan Gerzevske, correspondingsecretary@lwmlnid.org or call 630.294.5014

Your check payable to **LWML-NID** must be included with the order form and mailed to:

LWML NID Quarterly Subscriptions
c/o Janice Gerzevske
30W017 Juniper Ct
Warrenville IL 60555-1056

Please provide updated contact information

Cut and mail to address above

Zone # _____ **Society Name** _____

Society Address _____ **Street Address** _____
City _____ **Zip** _____

Primary Contact:

Name _____ **Phone** _____
email _____

Secondary Contact:

Name _____ **Phone** _____
email _____

Enter Number Subscriptions	Description	Cost of Each Subscription	Total
	10 or more Subscriptions	\$ 6.00	\$
	1 to 9 subscriptions	\$ 7.50	\$
		Amount Enclosed	\$



CALL FOR WORKERS! – Volunteer Application

2023 LWML Convention

June 22-25, 2023

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The assistance of hundreds of willing workers (including men!) is needed.

- **Duplicate this form and share it with other members of your congregation.**
- Indicate all the areas in which you would be willing to serve.
- Type or print clearly in dark ink.
- Some of the positions require being at the convention before it actually starts. If you are taking a district charter motorcoach to convention, please do not volunteer in these areas.
- Return completed form by February 1, 2023 (or sooner), to the address on page 2.

Thank you! *Hosted by North Wisconsin, Northern Illinois, South Wisconsin*

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ LWML District: _____

LWML Zone: _____ Host Committee Position: _____

My abilities:

_____ I am able to do a lot of walking.

_____ I am able to stand for up to 4 hours.

_____ I am able to handle heavy physical work (lifting, moving, securing props, etc.)

_____ I am a delegate and will help when the convention is not in session. (Delegates do not receive the worker discount coupon as they are funded by their district or zone.)

Please check all areas where you would be willing to serve.

If desired, number your areas in order of preference. We will try to accommodate your choices.

_____ I will pray for the convention, the speakers, and those serving on the Host Committee.

At home before the convention (**does not qualify for hours toward discount registration coupon):

_____ Centerpieces

_____ Golf Outing (getting sponsors, donations)

_____ Sewing (for special dress attire)

Note: Those who volunteer to work eight hours (two 4-hour shifts) or more in Milwaukee are eligible for a reduced registration fee. Please plan to work eight hours. You may register beginning January 9 – January 31, 2023 for a \$60 Worker Fee. Beginning February 1, it will be \$80. You will receive your assignments after you register. We are so glad you are accepting the promise to work at least eight hours. Should you decide not to volunteer for the convention you will receive an invoice for the balance of the registration fee.

Wednesday morning, June 21, prior to the beginning of convention

_____ Golf Outing _____ Packets assembly**

Wednesday afternoon, June 21, through Thursday, June 22, noon

_____ Airport/Train Greeter	_____ Hostess—Exhibitors	_____ Servant Activities
_____ Banner Room	_____ Hotel Greeter	_____ Tour Information
_____ Blood Drive	_____ Information Kiosk in Convention Center	_____ VIP Driver (requires car)
_____ Choir Registration	_____ LWML Store, set-up	_____ Walk Registration
_____ Communion—Altar Guild	_____ Charter Motorcoach / Shuttle Greeter	_____ Wheelchair Rental
_____ Convention Registration	_____ Newspaper Reporter	_____ Workers' Room
_____ Decorations, put up	_____ Properties Room	_____ as needed

Thursday, June 22, afternoon through Sunday, June 25, afternoon

_____ Airport/Train Greeter	_____ Hostess—On-Site	_____ Pack Communion Ware
_____ Communion Assistant	_____ Hostess—Photo Op	_____ Properties Room
_____ Convention registration	_____ Hostess—Prayer Chapel	_____ Usher—Floor
_____ Decorations	_____ Information Kiosk	_____ VIP Driver (requires car)
_____ Hostess—Choir	_____ Lost and Found	_____ Walk Registration
_____ Hostess—Exhibitors	_____ LWML Store, take down	_____ Wheelchair Rental
_____ Hostess—Food Service	_____ Newspaper reporter	_____ Workers' Room
_____ Hostess—LWML Store	_____ Charter Motorcoach / Shuttle Greeter	_____ as needed

Friday and Saturday

Child/Youth Care (assist with program, 8 a.m.–5 p.m., preferably for two days). Check preferred age:

_____ 6 months–4 years _____ 5–8 years _____ 9–12 years _____ 13–17 years

For Teens

_____ Page (must be 14–17 years old)

For Clergy

_____ Prayer Chapel, spiritual counsel, or prayer.

_____ Assist with communion at the Thursday evening worship service (does not qualify for hours toward worker discount).

_____ Other areas where needed—**PLEASE CHECK AREAS ABOVE**

Please return completed form as soon as possible to Allison Hein, Personnel Data Management Chairman by email: allisonlwmlmke23@gmail.com **or** USPS: 207 Amygdaloid, Laurium, MI 49913 **or** by phone/text: 906-281-5257

Or complete the form online at: <https://lwml-swd.org/events/other>

Questions? Call Anne Hartman, Host Committee Chairman at 715-450-0681 **or** send email to annelwml@gmail.com.

Thank you for your willingness to serve and “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.”