



COVID= Christ Over Viruses and Infectious Diseases!

March 21, 2020

Dear LWML Sisters:

Cancel, postpone, distance, self-isolate—these are words we have heard constantly during the past week. We in the mid-west postpone and cancel for snow, flooding and ice but not usually for health reasons. As we watch grocery store shelves empty due to panic among shoppers, we need to remember who is in charge. Psalm 46:1 reminds us that **God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**

Donna Gutzler sent me the above definition for COVID. We need to keep our eyes on the Lord and our hands folded in prayer during this time of uncertainty. Many of us are part of the mature generation which is being hit the hardest by this virus. We all enjoy being independent but if we become ill, we may need to reach out for help whether that is a need for food, medicine or our mail, etc.

**Prayer and Praise:** Our national President, Debbie Larson, asked for our prayers for the 10 Districts within the LWML who had conventions planned for the weeks of April 17-19, 24-26 and 30-May 3. Praise the Lord that our convention is not scheduled until September 11-12, 2020.

We also Praise the Lord that we were able to gather for the Lenten Inspiration on March 7<sup>th</sup> to worship our Lord through Matins and to study about the Holy Spirit. Several of our spring rallies needed to be postponed. But fear not, as speakers can be rescheduled and coordinated with dates available at the host church for this year, they will take place.

**Proactive approach:** Let's talk about what we, Lutheran Women in Mission do BEST—serving others. Look around your church and community to see who needs help buying their groceries, picking up medication, getting their mail, or just getting a phone call to check on them. As an LWML group establish a system to identify those in need and reach out to them, pray with them and for them and offer to run errands. Remember, communication via the phone is NOT prohibited.

**Mite offerings:** Since our meetings where mites would be collected are being cancelled along with church services, we need continue to accumulate our mites for when we can safely meet again. We pray that will be before sometime in May. Our Northern Illinois District biennium ends June 30, 2020 so we are requesting that all mite collections be postmarked to the financial secretary by June 15, 2020 so they are deposited during the current fiscal year.

**Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.** Ephesians 5:1-2

In a message from our national LWML President, Debbie reminded us to remember the words of this song:

Have no fear, little flock; Have no fear, little flock,  
For the Father has chosen To give you the Kingdom;  
Have no fear little flock! (LSB #736, verse 1)

God bless you as you continue to walk in the love of Christ whose death and resurrection we will celebrate either in person or virtually in the next few weeks.

*Jan Jerzevske*, LWML NID President