

There is no place like a pre-school classroom. My college daughter Kirsten believes this and visits my classroom

often. On her last visit, four-year-old Sophie sat next to Kirsten during circle time. Kirsten was oblivious to the fact that Sophie arranged her legs exactly as Kirsten's legs were arranged. After I quietly pointed this out, Kirsten rearranged her legs and Sophie once again arranged her legs to match Kirsten's.

That little preschooler was carefully watching Kirsten and wanted to be just like Kirsten. Children listen to the teacher's words and watch the teacher's actions very carefully. The children want to be like their teachers. Teaching little ones is a grave responsibility.

However, that responsibility does not end with the little ones. As Christian women we are carefully watched. The world notices the differences. Our speech is not peppered with words that need to be bleeped out and we are honest in

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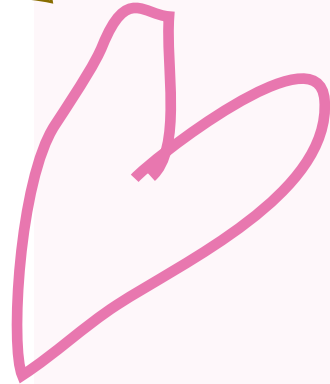
financial dealings. The family unit is important to us and we take time to attend church services. Our financial resources support missions here and abroad. We are lights shining in the darkness. The world is drawn to that light as moths to a flame. The

world is watching us. Not only are our words listened to, but our actions are watched to see if they match our words.

The teacher cannot be a perfect

model of behavior in a classroom. The Christian woman cannot be a perfect model of behavior. Not this side of Heaven. But the Good News is that God forgives us for those imperfections. His compassion is new every morning.

(Lamentations 3:23) We can live our lives loving God and walking as He would have us walk. Jesus is THE light of the world and He expects us to carry that light into the world. Let us walk together living out our faith.



Sherrie Shares



Sherrie Smith,

NID LWML

District

President

My LWML Story

Stories of how women came into the LWML.

by Jan Mauer,
Nominating Committee Chair

A dear friend of LWML was called home in January. Carolyn Hupe, age 70 had a heart for missions, the LWML and people of every race color and creed. She was a peaceful activist for human rights before it was popular.

As a young woman and a lifelong member of Salem Lutheran Church, Carolyn learned to love LWML from her mother Hedwig who was one of the founding members of LWML in the Chicago area. She went to college, became a teacher and taught in some of the poorest areas of Brooklyn, New York for many years. She started schools where there were none, taught where no one else wanted to go and worked hard for those whose lives were hard, oppressed and sometimes unloved by anyone except Carolyn.

She always promised she would return to Homewood, IL when her mother turned 70 years old and although she did not want to leave her life and students in New York; that is just what she did. She came home to take care of her mother, taught school at St. Paul Dorchester in Chicago, resumed her worship life at Salem and revitalized the LWML group.

And that is where she impacted my life. If not for Carolyn, I would not be active in LWML today. She made sure I was involved, on a committee, Zone President, Convention Chairman and now Chairman of the Nominating Committee. I thank God for her, for her encouragement and the extra push I needed.

I will miss Carolyn even though I had not seen her for several years because when her Mother was called home a few years ago she went back to Brooklyn and taught until she was given her crown of glory.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow.

Mourning and Celebration

by Rev. Robert O. Bartz,
Jr LWML Pastoral Counselor and
Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church
Richton Park, Illinois

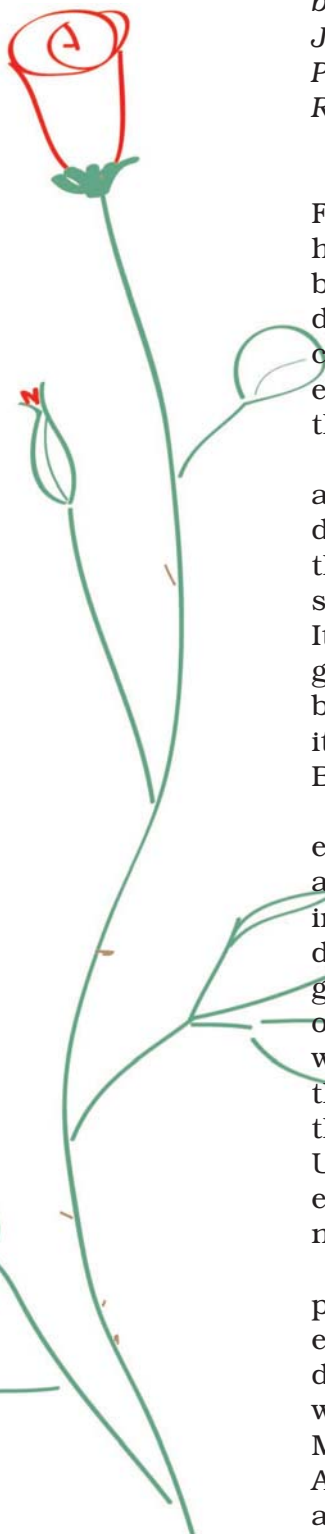
This article is written from Florida. My-step dad died peacefully in his sleep last Saturday, after a long battle with cancer. My natural father died of Leukemia 26+ years ago. Of course, when family members gather, everyone experiences a wide variety of thoughts and emotions.

This is a time for MOURNING, and CELEBRATION. We mourn the death of a loved one, and, we celebrate the loved one's life. This is not just something we experience at a funeral. It also happens at weddings, holiday gatherings, and other events that bring families together. In fact, we do it every day. We MOURN. We CELEBRATE.

How is that? Because of the effects of sin, temptation, demonic activity, the sinful flesh, and cultural influence we LOSE something each day: a loved one, a bad habit (that's a good thing), something important to our daily routine. When that happens we mourn. We celebrate as we realize the presence of GRACE, The power of the CROSS and the power of the RESURRECTION, present and given in each life situation, whether we recognize it or not.

MOURNING and CELEBRATION point to JESUS, the author and finisher of our faith: Hebrews 12:2. Each day brings many challenges. God has woven into the fabric of our existence: MOURNING and CELEBRATION. Acknowledge both, anticipate both, accept both. They are signs of God's enduring presence and grace.

God Bless all of you!



Newsy Letter

News

❖ **Zone 22** held a Fall Servant Event at St. John, Darien and their activity was bandage-rolling to benefit Global Health Ministries.

❖ **Zone 20's** fall Rally held at Grace, Willow Springs, resulted in two service projects with some of the attendees decorating nut cups for Lutheran Home for the Aged and rolling bandages for Global Health Ministries. Several of the members took a bandage roller back to their respective societies to use at future gatherings!

❖ **Zone 14** held a Fall Joy Shop at St Paul in Rochelle, IL Marcia Schnorr, RN, EdD, CLM-Parish Nurse reported on her numerous mission trips to Bethlehem. For information on this speaker, contact Zone 14 President, Carol Elliott or Secretary Cathi Clark, Zone 14.

❖ **Zone 9** held a Fall Workshop at Calvary, Wood Dale, where their project was bandage rolling for Global Health Ministries.

❖ **Zone 1** LWMLers met at Faith Lutheran for a day of sewing, knitting and fellowship for their Fall Workshop in Sept, 2009. They were joined by young girls for an afternoon of worship and fun...they made book bags for children, helmet liners and scarves for our soldiers. All the items made were sent to Lutheran World Relief. Way to go, ladies!!

❖ **Zone 2** Lois Marten reports that on LWML Sunday, the ladies collected glasses, & hygiene kits, wore their new LWML attire-vests, jackets, etc., and gave out cookies with lavender frosting to each one who put money in their Large mite box – and to others also!

❖ Upcoming Events:

Lenten Inspiration Meetings: Cost \$15.00 and includes lunch for either mtg. Register here:
<http://nidlwml.homestead.com/events.html>

March 6, 2010 at Bethel, Gurnee 9AM to 2PM (Regis. Deadline *Feb 27, 2010*)
 or

March 13, 2010 at Zion, Beecher 9AM to 2PM (Regis. Deadline Mar 6, 2010)

Contact Elvera Ruff for any questions or info: 630-904-0310
 Or eruff6311@aol.com

❖ **Zone 22** and **Zone 23** are combining to hold their Spring Rally At Word of Life in Naperville on **April 17th, 2010**. We would like to know how many Zones do this (seems like a good idea to us!).

❖ **Zone 2** will have its Spring Rally on **May 8** at St. Andrew's in Park Ridge. Breakfast will be served. For additional information, please contact Lois Marten, zone president, at 847-965-6255.

*Carol Sheppard
 Barbara Belanski
 Co-PR Chairs*

The next NIDBits is scheduled for May 2010. Please have articles and pictures to the NIDBits editor (teenadorn@aol.com) or VP of Communications, Nancy Glissman (lwmlgirl@comcast.net) by April 3.



An eyeglass clinic is an entirely different experience from other women's ministry mission trips---your contact with the people is very short and depending upon the position you are manning you may have little contact. During the four days of holding clinics, almost 500 people had their eyes tested and nearly 600 pair of glasses dispensed as well as sunglasses to each person.

Spreading the Gospel is the main goal of a MOST Ministries mission team whether it is dispensing eyeglasses, holding VBS, doing women's ministry or providing English as a second language studies. "Being part of a MOST team is like being on a retreat." Jane said. "They take such good care of you and ... it is a great outreach experience." While the drug wars at the border were a concern, none of us ever felt afraid while we were in Juarez at either of the churches or while waiting to cross the border. God's protection was felt among us and we simply stayed out of dangerous areas.

On October 24th the team left O'Hare for Juarez, Mexico where two eyeglass clinics were held at two different churches. Our week began with worship at San Pablo Lutheran Church at Ysleta which included a Servant Blessing for our team at their English service.

Team members included Jane Benjamin, Trinity Herscher; Jan Gerzevske, St John Wheaton; Debbie Jamieson, Ron Kohnke and Don Sommerfeld, Family in Faith Glendale Heights; Carol Sheppard Mt Greenwood Chicago; Heidi Shumate Prince of Peace Waukegan; and Bonnie Bishop, Lois Miles and Mary Ann Hibbard from the



Rita, our wonderful cook

Michigan District. Traveling with us was Gayle Sommerfeld, Don's wife who was our MOST team leader.

While the clinics were held in Juarez, we stayed at Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso. So we had all the comforts of home---i.e. pure water, great meals prepared by the mission's cook, flush toilets, hot showers etc. The "downside" of having to cross the border is long lines both entering and leaving Mexico.

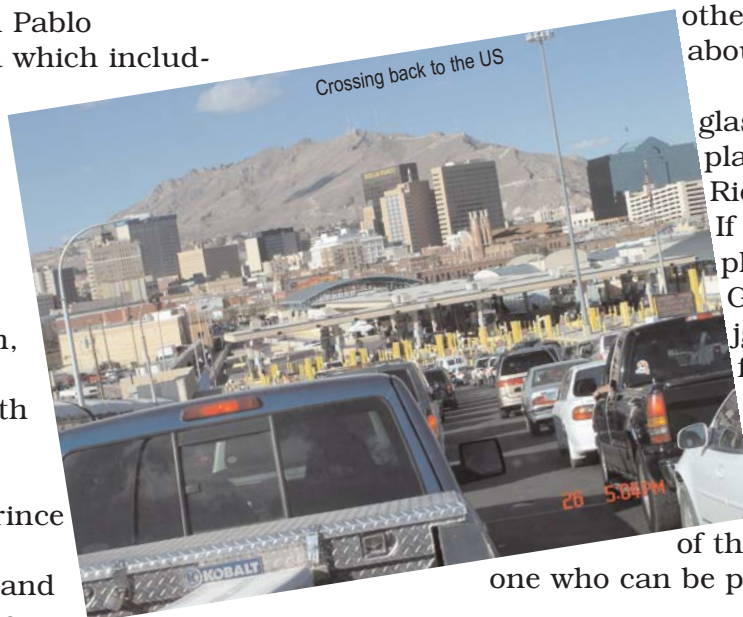
It is amazing how "hungry" people outside the U.S. are for the Gospel. People were willing to wait 45-60 minutes during the busy times to have their chance to spend time with the pastors to hear the Lord's words of salvation. Heidi's comment was "I saw God give those who left our clinic the gift of vision and the comfort of His word. So many visitors at the witness station listened with such intensity and not just out of obligation. I felt that God was opening their heart to hear His message."

"God is AWESOME! He took 11 people (who really did not know each other) and knit them together into a cohesive group that worked together like they knew each other's habits and personalities all our lives!" What a remarkable thing to have others witness and comment about our group.

In 2010, another eyeglass mission team is planned, this time to Costa Rica November 5-13, 2010. If you might be interested please email Jan Gerzevske at jgerz@netzero.com for further information. No experience necessary!! Be part of the team providing NEW VISION or if you can not be part of the team, support someone who can be part of the team.

New Vision

by Jan Gerzevske,
Short Term Missions
Committee



Mites Update 1/3/2010

Project Name

Northern Illinois District 2008-2010

1. Arabic Ministries
2. CAME DuPage Asian Indian
3. New Congregation Start in Salta, Argentina
4. Concordia Seminary St Louis Food Bank
5. Lutheran Orphanage in Jeremie, Haiti*
6. Muslim Outreach and Church Planting -- Chicago
7. Disaster Response Trailer
8. Lutheran Special Education in NID
9. **African Immigrant Ministry in NID** (see article pg 6)
10. Extra Mile Crisis Response Ministry
11. Cambodia Battambang School and Outreach
12. Academic Textbooks and Supplies for Themba Girls



Grant Amount	Disbursed	Balance
\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	PAID
\$10,000.00	516.18	\$9,483.82
\$7,393.00	7,393.00	PAID
\$12,000.00	12,000.00	PAID
\$12,000.00	12,000.00	PAID
\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00
\$12,000.00	1,380.58	\$10,619.42
\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	PAID
\$12,000.00	6,124.83	\$5,875.17
\$12,000.00	4,337.30	\$7,662.70
\$10,750.00	8,000.00	\$2,750.00
\$2,192.00	2,192.00	PAID
\$122,335.00	\$73,943.89	\$48,391.11

National LWML 2009-2011 NEW!!!

- Defray Costs of Shipping Quilts by LWR
- Concordia Seminary St Louis Food Bank Relocation
- Carpenter's Hands -- Youth refurbish homes in Florida
- Psalms 69:14 Project -- Disaster Aid for TX, OK, LA
- Digitize Classes for SMP Program Ft. Wayne
- 10 Chapels, Transportation, and Pastoral Training, Tanzania
- Body and Soul Care for Children in India
- LCMS Prison Ministry Devotional Materials
- Lutheran Braille Workers -- English Bibles in Africa
- Kyrgyzstan Locals Trained for Evangelism
- The Hope Center for Refugees and Immigrants Ohio
- Human Care and Pastor Ministries -- Latvia & Lithuania
- Mission Support to Disabled Children -- Dominican Republic
- Native Leadership Scholarships for EIIT
- Humanitarian Care Outreach in Kazkhstan
- ISM Bibles and Resources
- Earthquake Relief and Church Plants in Peru
- Light of Christ Chinese Lutheran Mission St. Louis
- Humanitarian Aid Opens Mission Field in North Korea

Grant Amount	Disbursed	Balance
\$80,000.00		\$80,000.00
\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00	PAID
\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
\$36,000.00		\$36,000.00
\$88,000.00		\$88,000.00
\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00
\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00
\$90,000.00		\$90,000.00
\$87,500.00		\$87,500.00
\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
\$100,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$70,000.00
\$90,000.00		\$90,000.00
\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00
\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	PAID
\$82,482.00		\$87,482.00
\$1,334,982.00	\$146,000.00	\$1,188,982.00

**Send all monies for Mites, Quarterlies, Memorials
and other donations to the**

NID/FINANCIAL SECRETARY AT PO BOX 4254, NAPERVILLE, IL 60567

Use the forms, completely filled out, which are available from the Financial Secretary.

Mites that Matter

Stories about how your mites make a difference.

From the

African Immigrant Ministry Grant

*by Kris Blackwell,
Vice President for Gospel Outreach*

With a grant from the NID Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Zion has purchased musical instruments for the French ministry and has organized meet and greet dinners to welcome newly arrived African immigrants in Chicago. Recently, a three-day gathering also took place among the leaders of the French ministry, featuring as speakers and Bible study leaders, Bishop Pierre Stewart Keya Masuangi and Pastor José Michel Phuati Khonde, both coming from the Democratic Republic of Congo. The two inspired the leaders to keep on spreading the Good News of salvation. They also invited the leaders to pray for the Church of DR Congo going through hardship as a result of the war that began in 1997 and is still going in some parts of the country.

The joy of working with African immigrants resides in being able to welcome new immigrants in Chicago in the name of our faith in Jesus Christ, and provide them with the services they need as they make the United States their new home. In a big city like Chicago, however, many immigrants generally only stay about one year and then move on to small towns and cities where they find a better job market and cheaper housing. We thank God for the opportunity afforded to Zion's African immigrant ministry to welcome these brothers and sisters, generally fleeing war and persecution in their countries of origin. In the past twelve months, the members of Zion's French ministry have met for worship services at Zion Lutheran Church and Bethany Lutheran Church (1244 W. Thorndale Ave., Chicago), home Bible study, meet and greet dinners... Several African immigrants continue to be reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to be provided with the human care services needed as they come to Chicago.

NID LWML Calendar

Saturday, February 20, 2010

EC meeting 8:30am and the BOD at 9:30am at Trinity, Lisle.

February 20 Board of Directors - Elected Officers and Appointed Staff

Lenten Inspiration Meetings:

Cost \$15.00 and includes lunch for either mtg. Registration form is here: <http://nidlwml.homestead.com/events.html>

March 6, 2010 Lenten Inspiration at Bethel, Gurnee.

March 13, 2010 Lenten Inspiration at Zion, Beecher.

Saturday October 23, 2010

NID LWML Convention at St. Paul, Mt. Prospect. "The King Reigns Triumphant."



See **Zone Rally's** on the *Newsy Letter Page*, page 3 and on the website: www.nidlwml.org

LWML News Releases

NEW MITE BOX SIZE NOW AVAILABLE

Mite Boxes are now available in a new size. In addition to the traditional smaller box and the larger display box, a medium size box is now offered. This classic is made of corrugated cardboard and measures 12"x 5" x 7".

LWML Convention Manager is 2009 Outstanding MVP

On Friday evening, November 6, 2009, the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum honored its volunteers at the annual Memorial Volunteer Program Appreciation Banquet held at the historic Skirvin Hilton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. At this banquet, Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention Manager Marguerite Christman was awarded the 2009 Outstanding MVP Award for her dedication and service as a volunteer at the Memorial.

LWML Grant Given to "THE CARPENTER'S HANDS"

Youth Director Carl Schleede, Grace Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, is privileged to work with teens who want to make life better for those in their community. These youth, under the direction of able adult volunteers, make necessary household repairs inside and outside the homes of elderly people who no longer can physically do the work themselves or for those who are financially unable to do it. The youth and their mentors are named "The Carpenter's Hands."

LWML Given "Partners' Award"

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) was presented the "Ablaze! Partners' Award" by LCMS World Mission on November 18, 2009, at their annual Mission Partners Banquet. The award is annually given to a national or international partner of LCMS World Mission that demonstrates a heart for reaching the lost with the Gospel by pursuing in an exemplary way the goals of Ablaze! in its daily ministry activities. LWML President Janice Wendorf accepted the award on behalf of the organization.

2010 LWML Prayer Service Now Available

"Beautiful Feet" is the theme of the 2010 LWML Prayer Service authored by Reverend Philip Esala. The theme is based on one of the 2009 Portland LWML Convention verses — How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7

The 2010 LWML Prayer Service is available as a free download from the LWML Website at www.lwml.org

LWML news releases are archived at www.lwml.org under News link



Place
stamp
here

***PRESIDENT: SHERRIE SMITH,** (708) 594-7442, bsmith0708@sbcglobal.net; Leads district in living out the mission of Lutheran Women in Mission. Will help with any questions you have about LWML.

***V.P. for SERVANT RESOURCES: GENE MILLER,** (708) 331-5075, gjm1953@aol.com; Assists societies in leadership and member development. Has servant resource items shown in LWML catalog.

V.P. for CHRISTIAN LIFE: ELVERARUFF, (630) 904-0310, eruff6311@aol.com; Provides mite boxes to zone presidents. Assists societies with Christian growth resources. Has items for Christian life from LWML catalog. Plans retreats. Prepares Speakers List.

V.P. for HUMAN CARE: CAROL FUYS, (630) 637-0550, cfuys14@comcast.net; Coordinates servant events and in-gatherings. Provides information on service projects and events.

V.P. for GOSPEL OUTREACH: KRIS BLACKWELL, (630) 234-1491, kbwrk@sbcglobal.net; Encourages development of mission grant proposals. Presents reviewed projects to the Executive Committee and the convention for selection.

V.P. for COMMUNICATION: NANCY GLISSMAN, (630) 715-4351, lwmlgirl@comcast.net; Coordinator of all district LWML publications, print and electronic.

TREASURER: DONNA SIMUNDIC, PO Box 693, Westmont, IL 60559-0693, (630) 241-2625, simundic@juno.com; Makes all authorized payments.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: BARBARA ETTER, PO Box 4254, Naperville, IL 60567, (630) 420-0626, barbetter@comcast.net; Receives all mites, special donations, Quarterly donations and memorials.

RECORDING SECRETARY: vacant, Records and distributes minutes from EC & BOD meetings, and convention.

***CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: CHARLOTTE LARSON,** (815) 206-0730, eccleeneedle2@juno.com; Receives changes of addresses, changes in the amounts of Quarterlies, handles correspondence and loaning of LWML videos.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN: JEWEL T. SIMS, (773) 277-2690, Jsgrand5@aol.com; Coordinates district gatherings and convention.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: JANET MAUER, (708) 798-0691, janmauer@sbcglobal.net; Receives nominations for NID LWML officers for elections.

***ARCHIVIST-HISTORIAN: RUTH PRALLE,** (847) 255-1713, rdpralle@yahoo.com; Preserves historical materials from district and zones.

SR. PASTORAL COUNSELOR: REV. ERIK GAUSS, Egauss@hiscross.org; Serves district league in advisory capacity and presents Bible studies at meetings and conventions.

JR. PASTORAL COUNSELOR: REV. ROBERT BARTZ revrob8@sbcglobal.net Serves district league in advisory capacity and presents Bible studies at meetings and conventions

STRUCTURE CHAIRMAN: NANCY SUHS, (708) 799-4872, carlinsuhs@aol.com; Prepares and presents bylaws for delegate approval at convention. Receives all bylaws and constitutions from societies and zones.

PARLIAMENTARIANS:
DORCAS MEISSNER, (847) 854-5761, bwdmeissner@sbcglobal.net; and
CARLI ZYGOWICZ, (815) 547-8639, czygowicz@hotmail.com; Assists president with parliamentary procedures at all meetings and the convention.

***PUBLIC RELATIONS CO-DIRECTORS:**
BARBARA COPELAND-BELANSKI, (708) 995-5375, mokenaliving@comcast.net; and
CAROL SHEPPARD, (773) 881-8126, sheppardnurse@att.net; Coordinates PR activities for district LWML.

DISTRICT PUBLICATION EDITOR: TRACY RADATZ, (630) 834-8523, nidlwml@d

itor@aol.com; Produces the monthly LWML page in The Northern Light. Send her LWML events you want publicized.

NID-BITS EDITOR: TEENA DORN, (708) 957-4491, teenadorn@aol.com; Produces the NID-Bits insert for The Quarterly.

DISTRICT WEBMASTER: WENDY JOHNSON, (815) 874-2304, nidlwmlpr@msn.com; Posts information on the district web page, www.nidlwml.org.

PLANNER: JAN STANTUS, (630) 208-7353, jstan1@juno.com; Serves as planning director for NID LWML.

MISSION MINISTRY VISION CONSULTANTS:

PAULINE BRUNKE, (630) 393-6380, psbrunke@yahoo.com; and
DARLYNE WATTS, (815) 762-0546, darlynelark@aol.com; Assists zones and societies with visioning and overcoming obstacles to become more effective in living out the LWML mission.

SHORT TERM MISSION COMMITTEE: JAN GERZEVSKE, (630) 294-5014, jgerz@netzero.com; Encourages awareness and provides opportunities for participation in short term missions.

COMMITTEE ON YOUNG WOMEN CHAIRMAN: vacant, Assists zones and societies as they seek to meet the needs of young women.

*Send copies of Zone minutes to these officers.