

LWML NID

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



CALENDAR &
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ORDERING
INFO
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NID-Bits



2016-2018 Mission Grant: Interpreters
for MOST Ministries, \$10,000, see
story page 2.

Mercy and Our God

By Barb Belanski, LWML NID President

Webster's Dictionary defines mercy as compassionate and kind; while the Thesaurus lists synonyms for mercy as pity, leniency, tolerance, sympathy, charity, grace, tenderness, mildness and forbearance. Do you know anyone with these characteristics? We may have acquaintances who possess some of these qualities some of the time, but not all of

We will be studying
our merciful God in
our Lenten
Inspiration on
March 25



these qualities all of the time.

There is someone, though, whom we can count on to always be kind and consistently treat us with mercy – not because in any way, shape or form do we deserve His mercy, leniency or sympathy for our actions, but because of the love He has for us. God, our heavenly Father, loved us so much that He sacrificed His only Son to die in our stead. While on this earth, Jesus continually showed mercy to the poor, the sick, the downtrodden – the sinner. The Holy Spirit blesses us daily with His loving caresses of mercy.

So, how do we respond to others? Are we to hold grudges? - lash out and lose our temper? – be impatient? – judge harshly? – be intolerant? – be unforgiving? God answers all these queries in His Word:

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. (Luke 6:36 NIV)

But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. (Matthew 6:15 NIV)

Because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment! (James 2:13 NIV)

And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8 NIV)

God's MERCY has been adopted as the theme for the LWML NID in 2017 – we will be sharing and studying our merciful God in our Lenten Inspiration on March 25 and in our Fall Gathering on October 7. And during the year, as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of our beloved LWML, we will see the abundance of His mercy and love.

The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. (Lamentations 3:22 NIV)

Blessings,

Barb

MOST Ministries

2016-2018 Mission Grant: Interpreters for MOST Ministries, \$10,000

MOST Ministries, a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, sends 30 to 40 missionary teams per year into

Mites fund Grants. Grants fund Ministry Projects.



Lutheran Women
Missionary League
of the
Northern Illinois District
Sharing Jesus
with the World



MOST Ministries

countries around the world at the request of national churches in partnership with LCMS, or LCMS missionaries, to minister to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the people. Virtually all of the people in these mission fields speak other tongues than English making interpreters essential for communication. Whether the work involves a Vacation Bible School, a medical clinic, providing and installing water filters, the work cannot be done easily, or the Gospel spread, without someone to bridge the language barrier. This grant provides funds to give minimal stipends to the individuals who serve as interpreters.

Since the NID convention in September 2016, three teams have made use of funds to provide small stipends for people who served in this vital role. To date \$1100 has been dispersed. The grant of \$10,000 will certainly return great benefits through this outreach. Thank you to the women of the LWML Northern Illinois District for sharing mites that support this outreach.

“Lord, Have Mercy”



By Rev. Jay Klein

God's mercy is found throughout the Bible. One of the signature moments, which describe the mercy of God is found in Exodus 34:6, 7. Following the Golden Calf incident, God threatened to destroy the people of Israel rather than forgive them (Exodus 32:10). But God relented; He was faithful even when the people were not.

With this in mind, let us take a look at some of the words from Exodus 34:6, 7 and how God Himself describes the mercy that He provides.

Exodus 34:6, 7

Then the Lord passed by in front of Moses and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin." (NASB)

- Compassionate – God is filled with loving sympathy for human frailty.
- Gracious – God shows mercy even to those who do not deserve it.
- Slow to anger – God gives the sinner ample time to reflect, repent, and confess.
- Abundant kindness – God is kind to those who lack personal achievements and He provides more gifts and blessings than deserved.

Rev. Jay Klein, Senior
LWML NID Pastoral
Counselor and Pastor at
Zion Lutheran Church,
Hinsdale, IL

- Preserves kindness to generations – God will never forget His words of kindness and mercy toward future generations.

As we reflect on the mercy of God let us also remember that we have been called into “the fellowship of His Son” (1 Corinthians 1:9). The grace and mercy shown to us is not from some far away God but rather from One who is near – whose Spirit dwells in us – and who has given us the highest Christian privilege called fellowship. And one of the gifts of this fellowship with God is to embrace the mercy that Jesus Christ freely gives.

St. Paul writes, “When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. **He forgave us all our sins.**” (Colossians 2:13, emphasis added). This union with Christ is connected to our forgiveness. And if then the life we live is “hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:3), then we can never be “sinfully condemned.” Therefore, it is written, “there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1) and no one can lay a charge against any of God’s saints (Romans 8:33).

Indeed, as the Holy Spirit prepares us to enter into another season with the Lord, let us pray that we see our Savior’s mercy with “fresh eyes” and give praise to God because we are *eternally forgiven for everything!*

ORDERING Lutheran Women’s Quarterlies for 2017-2018



Jan Gerzevske,
Corresponding
Secretary

During **January 2017**, all congregations currently receiving subscriptions of the Lutheran Women’s Quarterly will be sent an invoice listing the number of subscriptions received in 2016-2017. The total number of subscriptions can be increased or decreased on that invoice.

The **invoice with PAYMENT** for the number of subscriptions requested must be returned to the address listed on the invoice **NO later than March 15, 2017**. The Northern Illinois District LWML is invoiced for the number of subscriptions requested by the societies in the District and can only **decrease** to the number of subscriptions per society **in March**.

If the invoice with payment is not returned by the **March 15 deadline**, your society will be shown as zero on the subscription listing sent to St Louis.

Jan Gerzevske, Corresponding secretary, will be emailing an invoice to your society in January. If your society has not received the invoice from her by January 30th, please call her at 630-294-5014 or email her at correspondingsecretary@lwmlnid.org so she can forward another copy to your society.

If your society did not order the Quarterly in 2016-2017, contact Jan for the order form with information to order for 2017-2018.



INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS Lutheran Women's Quarterly

If your congregation doesn't have a women's society but you would like a subscription to the Lutheran Women's Quarterly which will be mailed to your home, you can order an individual print or eQuarterly (or both for the same price!). The one-year subscription is \$6.50 by calling the LWML Business office during business hours at 1-800-252-LWML (5964) or by ordering online.

Remembering the 2016 District Convention

By Kirsten Smith

"Girls just wanna have fun!"

The young women at the northern Illinois convention did. It was great getting to connect with other Lutheran women from around the district that are our age. We bonded in Bible study, servant events, and worship. I really enjoyed the Bible study led by the pastoral counselors. Pastor Klein was pretending to interview the apostle Paul and from Paul we learned what it means to rejoice. Later the YWRs even had some fellowship time in the pool and eating pizza. But my favorite part was singing "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" at the talent show on Saturday night. We worked together to rewrite the lyrics of "Girls Just Want to Have Fun", it was incredible to see how well we worked as a team. It's amazing to see what women can accomplish when they come together to work for a common goal.



Kirsten Smith (left) and friends rewrite lyrics to "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!" and everyone enjoyed it!

That is what the LWML is all about, women who work together to help spread the love of God. At the end of the convention we talked about getting together once a month to catch up and pray for one another. I am so grateful God has brought these ladies into my life.

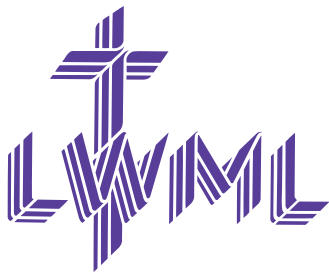
Calendar

- **February 18, 2017** @ 8:30 am – 9:15 am, EC, Zion Lutheran Church, 865 S Church Rd, Bensenville, IL 60106
- **February 18, 2017** @ 9:30 am – 3:00 pm BOD, Zion Lutheran Church, 865 S Church Rd, Bensenville, IL 60106
- **March 18, 2017** @ 9:00 am – 2:00 pm EC, NID Office 2301 S Wolf Rd, Hillside, IL 60162
- **March 25, 2017** - Lenten Inspirations, St. John Lutheran Church, 1800 S. Rodenburg Road, Schaumburg, IL 60193, "What is Mercy?"
- **June 22-25, 2017**, LWML National Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Go to: <http://www.lwml.org/2017-convention>

Announcements

- Please inform your LWMLNID society Treasurer of the new address for mites: LWML NID, P.O. Box 958012, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.
- Still looking for Lana's Convention song? Go to: <http://lwmlnid.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/2016ConventionSongRejoice.pdf>

You can reach NID-Bits Editor, Teena Dorn at VPCommunications@LWMLNID.org



LWML NID Lenten Inspiration

Saturday, March 25, 2017

St. John Lutheran Church

1800 S. Rodenburg Road
Schaumburg, IL 60193

"What is Mercy?"

Definition • As Jesus saw it • Luther's struggle with it

Please join us for a day of discovering God's mercy from Old and New Testament times and throughout the ages

Registration and Fellowship: 8:30 a.m.

Inspiration: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Morning Coffee and Lunch Provided by Women of St. Johns

Registration Fee: \$15.00 (payable to LWML NID)

Register on line at **www.LWMLNID.org** (Go to "Register for an Event") OR
Mail registrations to:

Barbara Himley, 1000 Fairlane Drive, Schaumburg, 60193

Registration deadline: Monday, March 20, 2017

Spring Basket Sale (to support our YWRs attending Albuquerque)

Name: _____

Address _____

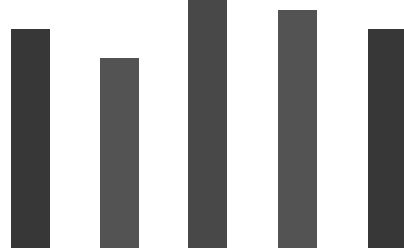
City _____ St _____ Zip _____

email _____

Phone _____ Congregation _____



LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



Jesus Christ

above all

Philippians 2:9



37th Biennial Convention

Thursday, June 22 - Sunday, June 25, 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico