



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Winter 2019 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*

Volume
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Ohio District Edition – ODE



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www.lwmlohio.org

Our Pledge to You

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and blood-bought gift of redemption...

Do you recognize these words? You should! These words comprise the opening phrase of the LWML pledge. Have you ever taken the time to really think what those words mean? The word fervent means a great intensity of feeling as well as impassioned and ardent. The word gratitude means thankfulness, appreciation, and gratefulness. Our pledge begins with our personal intense feeling of thankfulness for all the Lord has done for us. It is this outpouring of His Spirit within us that exercises our faith in doing good works for our neighbor.

...we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have;

We devote wholly and earnestly everything we own and everything we can do in service to our God. We hold none of our time, talents or treasures in reserve. We give all that we are to do whatever the Savior asks of us.

...and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest field, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us.

We are to serve the Lord in whatever capacity we can. Does this mean we are to assist whenever there is a need in our church, our community or our LWML group? Yes, it does! Does this mean we should prayerfully consider running for an LWML office when asked to be a candidate at the society, zone or district level? Yes, it does. Does this mean we should volunteer to be part of the Host Committee for the LWML 2021 Convention? Yes, it certainly does! God calls us into service whenever and however we are needed. It is not whether we could, would or should serve. Rather, it is a commitment that we WILL do whatever the Lord asks us to do. We are His workers, and we will obey His command to serve others.

We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voices to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His kingdom, our will to do His will...

We are to dedicate ourselves to serving our Lord with our entire being. Our hands, feet, and voice are set apart in pursuit of doing the Lord's work. According to the Bible verses in Matthew 25:36-40, we are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, and visit the sick and the prisoner. We are to care for those in need. We are also to share our wealth and resources to bring God's Word to others. We are lovingly and joyfully to fill our Mite Boxes so that we can support those mission grants that spread God's love throughout the world. As God has blessed us, we are to bless others. In addition, we are to follow God's will in our lives. We no longer do as we desire, but we are obligated to act and respond as God desires.

...and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and erring into eternal fellowship with Him.

We make a solemn promise to use everything that God has given us to bring those Who have gone astray back to Him. We are to reach out to those who have deviated

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Dear Women in Mission,

As fall comes to a close and winter begins, I'd like for you to take a moment and reflect upon what God has accomplished in you, through you, and even despite you. Chances are, it was a lot!



There's so much going on during the fall months, isn't there? School years are well on their way now. Fall sports seasons have come and gone. Various church activities and ministries have started up. LWML groups at various levels (congregation, zone, district) have done different things together as Lutheran women in mission.

As you look back over the last biennium and especially over this past fall, how have your LWML groups accomplished our mission focus together?

1. Nurturing Faith in Christ: *By God's grace, were women offered opportunities to be in the Word and to use their unique gifts in God's service? How so? Whose faith was nurtured because of LWML?*

2. Making Our Faith Meaningful: *Were women equipped to make a significant difference in the lives of all people? How so? What great things happened because women were equipped to make a difference?*

3. Sharing Encouragement: *Were women valued, accepted, and encouraged to grow in their relationships with others? How did your groups encourage one another in Christ? What encouragement have you received?*

As each of your groups wrestle with what to do or not to do, or with what to keep the same and what to change, keep these three things in mind. Don't deviate from the focus of these three mission. You can't go wrong when you're all about nurturing faith in Christ, sharing encouragement with one another, and making our faith meaningful

God bless the LWML!

Pastor Keith Witte, Junior Pastoral Counselor

(continued from page 1)

from God's purpose into a life of sin. With the help of God, we are to live a life of dedication, devotion, and love to introduce others to a personal relationship with their loving and forgiving Lord.

This is most certainly true!

The LWML pledge is 121 words that inspire us to change the focus of our lives. This pledge is our commitment to serve our Lord with everything we have in order to do everything He wants. In response to His love, we love and serve His people at all times. Every time we recite the LWML pledge, we rededicate our lives to serving God! **Amen**

Jeanne Schimmelmann, President

Here Am I, Send Me

It's not my turn, Lord. Please send someone else? We all have these thoughts go through our minds from time to time. We don't often jump at the opportunity to serve like Isaiah did in Isaiah 6:8, *Here am I, send me*. Yet, the Lord is calling each one of us to join in the mission work of the church. One way to do this is by serving in the LWML.



The LWML has many resources available through its websites: lwml.org and lwmlohio.org. The websites list our mission grants and ways to support these grants through prayer, filling Mite Boxes, using Joyful Response and even signing up for an automatic withdrawal for mites from your personal account. The websites also have resources for leading devotion at a unit meeting and for personal daily devotions. Please take the time to browse these sites and discover the helpful resources which enable you to join Isaiah in saying, "Here am I, send me".

Ruth Mowery, Public Relations

Subscription Reductions Due .. March 1 for Quarterly and ODE

Does your society or church need to reduce the number of copies of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* or the *ODE*? Quantity reductions are processed once a year and must be received by March 1 to take effect with the summer 2020 edition.



Please contact Kim Klein at kimkleinLWML@neo.rr.com to decrease (or increase) the quantity of printed/mailed copies of the *Quarterly* or *ODE*.

A PDF version of the *ODE* is available AT NO COST to everyone, not just print subscribers. PDFs can be forwarded by email or printed in your church office. If you want a PDF version, email Kim Klein at kimkleinLWML@neo.rr.com to add your name or your church to the email distribution list.



Our Mites Are Indeed Mighty!

I was sitting here with lots of time on my hands, so I thought about the mites we collect and send to the district. I am always amazed at the things those coins (and dollars) are able to do; at both the district and national level.

The mites collected at this year's national LWML convention during the 4 offering collections totaled \$142,889 (as of September 26, 2019.)

Offering #1: 2019–2021 LWML Mission Goal: \$45,399.42.

Offering #2: Medical Mission Teams/Expanding the Disability Ministry in the Dominican Republic: \$30,950.10

Offering #3: James Storehouse Louisiana/Spiritual Care for Unaccompanied Refugee Children: \$31,120.40

Offering #4: LCMS Disaster Response/Community Relief: \$35,419.08.

The mites collected will definitely be appreciated by all these groups. I just read about the devastation that Tropical Storm Imelda was causing in the areas of Beaumont and Winne, Texas. They received 28 inches of rain and expected 10 more inches in the next 36 hours. The flooding in that area of Texas

is equal to or worse than the flooding after Hurricane Harvey.

There is still an LCMS Disaster Recovery funded/contracted disaster manager in the coastal area of Texas until January 31, 2020. They are overseeing this new flood response work. Rev. Ross Johnson, Director of Disaster Response said "As you can see, the timing of your gift was extraordinary."



God's timing is always perfect. Sometimes I wonder why things happen, but I take comfort in knowing it is all part of God's plan for us. The next time I drop off my Mite Box at church, I will pray that those mites will make a difference in some way. To God be the glory, great things He hath done!

Janet Pauley, Christian Life Committee Chairman

YOU are cordially invited to attend the **28th Biennial LWML Ohio District Convention!**

When:

June 19-21, 2020

Where:

The Marriott at the
University of Dayton
1414 S. Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio 45409



Convention Theme:

"Hope Fully on God's Grace"

based on 1 Peter 1:13

Inspired by 1 John 1:7

"Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you (1 Peter 1:13)"

Join our Sisters in Christ from LWML groups (societies) in Ohio, northern Kentucky and western West Virginia. Start planning your zone banner. Each LWML group (society) can send two delegates and designate two alternates. These women will vote for convention business such as bylaws amendments, mission grants, and election of officers.

Be a delegate or an alternate from your church.

Get INSPIRED! Be excited, motivated, Christ centered!! See YOU There!

Logo was designed by Megan Ramey-Keelin from St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ashland, KY
Symbolism of logo: The woman is shown, using LWML purple, looking up (incorporating hope) toward both the cross and the dove. The dove is also connected to the woman, symbolizing speaking to others about God's grace, understanding, and her faith.

Updates will be posted on the LWML Ohio District Website:

www.lwmlohio.org

Did You Know?

Join in Praying the Psalms with the new LWML Podcast! New episodes with devotional content from Praying the Psalms will be posted every Wednesday.

How to join?

There is nothing new you need to download or install. Every iPhone comes with a Podcast app by default. Android users can listen to podcasts using Google Play Music. Open iTunes or Google Play Music and search for "LWML" or "LWML on the go," then subscribe!



Pondering

Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart (Luke 2:19 NIV). More than likely you will hear these words at a Christmas Eve service or one of the many December Sunday morning or mid-week Advent worship services. Mary pondered.

Ponder is an interesting word. It is defined as considering something deeply and thoroughly. Did Mary ponder the changes that would begin that silent night; the changes to her, to her son, to the world? Mary was chosen by God. No pondering there; God chose Mary. How is one to say no to what God has chosen.?

It is the same with our service to LWML. God chooses us to serve in a variety of ways; one of which could be as a member of the Ohio District Executive Committee. When presented with a challenge or an opportunity, do we ponder first and agree second? If we are perfectly honest with ourselves, the answer would be yes. Why is our faith weak at that moment? Why do we offer excuses such as *I don't think I can* or *I don't think I have time*. Would God ever ask us to do something He knew we could not accomplish? We should do as Mary did. Ponder, but believe that with God, His work will be done. Remember these words, *I am with you always, to the very end of the age* (Matthew 20:28 NIV). Go in faith; agree to serve.

Diana Schnack, Nominating Committee

Seeking Nominees for these positions:

- ♥ **Financial Secretary**
- ♥ **Nominating Committee (3)**



LWML Website



The Word

- Bible Studies
- Mustard Seed Devotions
- Program Helps
- Scripture in Color
- Winter Resources

Missions

- Gospel Outreach
- Mission Grants
- Mite Explanation & History
- Your Mite Offerings Have Made an Impact

Service

- Church Workers in Mission
- Get Involved
- Group Resources
- Leadership Development
- Mission Service Activities

Fellowship

- Deaf Ministry
- H2H Sisters
- Social Media
- YOUth in Mission

News and Events

- Convention Central
- LWQ
- eQuarterly
- LWML Sunday
- 75th Anniversary
- Media
- News
- Prayer Service

About

- Who We Are
- Membership
- Structure
- Contact

Giving

- Donate Online
- Giving Oppor
- Gift Planning/ Gifts of Love
- Legacy Circle
- Stewardship/ Giving Resources
- Mite Report

Donate

Opens link to Donate online

Shop

Opens link to LWML Store





What Makes a Good Leader?

I recently read an article called "Two Teachers" and it highlighted the differences between two presenters at a women's conference. Basically, there was one focused on the love of Christ and serving His people while the other wrote some books, dropped names of famous people, and was very self-centered. Guess which one was popular? The one who focused on the world, fame, and fortune. However, a good leader is not always the most popular one. After all, Jesus was popular until he refused to do miracles on demand and offered them eternal life and true access to God. Many stopped following Him and some even turned on Him.

How easy it is to fall into the trends of the world and to become "of the world" when really what matters is found in the Bible! What matters is Christ. In an organization such as LWML, we often find ourselves in leadership positions and wonder how to lead, how to do what we have been called to do. I could point you to a useful secular book about leadership, but instead let's take a look at something better, something true: God's Word! The best example of leadership, like many things, is found in Christ. What did Christ do that made him a great leader?

There are many different attributes of Jesus that made him a great leader and the most frequently cited one seems to be his servant leadership. Who can forget the washing of the disciples' feet and his many miracles? Leaders aren't afraid to get their hands dirty. They lead by setting an example and serving others. This is an area in which I feel many Lutheran Women in Mission



excel, as most of us got involved for that very reason - service.

Jesus also sought to do His Father's will, not His own. He even prayed that way in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:39). This is the very thing that leads to His death and resurrection. Like Jesus, we need to take time to be with God and to seek His will in all that we do, especially when making decisions. By keeping our focus on Him we can help ensure that we are doing His will and not our own. It can be so easy to go about life doing what we want and what may feel good to us, but we forget that our hearts are sinful too. Only His way is right, only His way is true. We must seek Him with all our heart so that we can stay true and lead in the right direction. It does not help to follow someone if they are lost.

Besides serving alongside our teammates and seeking God's will we can also get to know our people. Learn people's names and use them when greeting each other. This can build trust and when people trust their leader, they will follow. As the Great Shepherd, Jesus knows the names of his sheep and calls them. We too can get to know our sheep and use their names and pray with them to build that bond of trust and friendship.

Lisa Rhonemus, Leadership Development

If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them (John 13:14-17).

Mission Grant Update

The Carrie Twyman Kids Church was formed 12 years ago to bring the message of Jesus's love to unchurched children. The church began with 13 children, ages 5 to 19 years. It is named after a beloved volunteer, Carrie Twyman, who at the age of 80 volunteered every Saturday at Kids Church. Although Carrie can no longer physically volunteer because of a stroke, she still gives her heart to help Kids Church.

The LWML Ohio District mission grant to the Carrie Twyman Kids Church will enable the organization to provide Christian teaching to children through the purchase of additional teaching materials and Bibles. The grant will compensate a driver who will safely transport the children to and from the church. It will

fund an increase in neighborhood festivals as well as pay for 50% of the food costs for regular Kids Church sessions. In addition, it will upgrade the current sound system so that Divine Service and Bible study will be heard in both the sanctuary and the undercroft.

\$3,353.32 has been paid on this \$5,000 LWML Ohio District mission grant.

Come, My children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord (Psalm 34:11).

Sandy Dixon, Gospel Outreach





MITES 2018-2020

	July/Sept 2019	Biennium Total
Mites Received	\$8,718.35	\$98,599.91
Joyful Response	\$285.00	\$1,820.00
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$199.00	\$4,817.00
Quarterlies & ODEs	\$543.50	\$10,062.55
Honors/Memorials	\$300.00	\$4,917.25
Stamps	\$50.00	\$71.00
Total Mission Income	\$10,095.85	\$120,287.71

Diversity

Carol Leslie, Cincinnati Zone

We are All One in Christ Jesus, A Heart for Diversity. *There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28).*

The LWML Fall Retreat was held on Saturday, September 28, at Messiah Lutheran Church. Pastor Stuckwisch opened the morning with song, accompanying the group with his guitar, and Bible study/devotion, tying the theme to two additional Bible passages: Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:6-8 further highlighting being one in Christ Jesus.

Kaye Wolff, past LWML Vice President of Special Focus Ministries, discussed the many resources available through LWML. She lead discussion of unconscious bias manifested in all of us and emphasized the God-given uniqueness and differences we should recognize, acknowledge and celebrate.

The group engaged in servant activities which included writing notes of encouragement for individuals in nursing homes and veterans at the VA hospital; preparing fleece blankets for individuals who go to the Bridge Ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church; and donation of items for the Bridge Ministry.

Three LWML members gave presentations. Jill Byrd discussed the need for individuals to take care of the physical and mental health of themselves and those around them. Nicole Dowdell discussed financial health



in the age of technology and social engineering, which addressed cyber fraud and other activities that particularly target older

adults. Kaye Wolff discussed culture and concerns in your church, with emphasis on intentional behaviors to welcome and include individuals who may be different from us.

Honors - Memorials
July - September 2019

Memorials

- Lila (Moran) Tuttle
- Lois Heimlich
- Betty McCane
- Kathy Conrad
- Helen Saunders
- Toni Alden
- Renata VonDeylen
- Clarence Cameron
- Donald Sandor

In Honor of:

- Mary Martin
- Jennifer Huecker

Designated or Unrestricted



This is a big consideration when leaving estate gifts to ministry. You may have a specific ministry intent to designate, or you may trust ministry leaders. Both can be a blessing or a bane. Why not talk about it with someone who represents ministry? To learn more, contact Beth Marth, Gifts of Love Gift Planning Advocate, at bmarth@columbus.rr.com.



Women of His Story

Charlotte Le Pere, Northeast Zone

On Saturday, September 21, ladies of the Northeast Zone enjoyed their 27th "Annual Get-Away" which was held at the Perry YMCA. The theme was "Women of His Story," based on Esther 4:14b, *And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?* The Retreat Committee, Ruth Mowery, Billie Lelle, Jeanne Schimmelmann, Raye Guynn, Gaye Hunt, Charlotte Le Pere, and Ann Marie Bollas, with Pastor Kevin Guynn, Counselor, had planned an exciting, inspirational, Christ-centered day from the opening continental breakfast, through lunch, and ending with Northeast Zone business.

Ruth Mowery, Retreat Chairman, welcomed everyone with a special welcome to several ladies from Cleveland East Zone. Billie Lelle, NE Zone President, called us to order and then the Retreat Storytellers



(Ruth, Jeanne, Gayle, and Ann Marie) set the tone with the skit "First Things First," reminding us that putting God first in our lives helps everything else fall into place. Rev. Donald Beaumont led the opening devotion and a special mites offering was taken. Through the skit "The Mighty Penny," Char, as President Lincoln, told everyone to keep filling those Mite Boxes and to remember that dimes, quarters and even dollars fit in quite well. Jeanne gave a brief history of mites and reminded us of our current projects. Donna Foisel led a Gifts from the Heart dedication of the socks, flip flops and monetary offerings. Billie led us in singing praises to our marvelous God. Ann Marie had the ladies moving with fun games of "Pass the Candy" and later on "Would You Rather?"

Guest speaker was Ruth Pangrace who appeared as "Eleanor Roosevelt: First Woman of History," a woman who dealt with family problems, was thrust into politics, and had a strong faith. Pastor Beaumont, led a Bible study about women in the Bible.

Work Day

Grace Harris, Toledo Zone

Toledo Zone members were busy this summer! We made 52 fleece blankets for Ronald McDonald House of Toledo; 321 witness bracelets; and 72 felt eyeglass cases for made Mission Opportunities Short Term, (MOST) Ann Arbor. Every month a group from the Zone, volunteers there, checking donated eyeglasses,



in preparation for the mission field. Four quilts were finished and will be sent to Orphan Grain Train, along with over 100 tee shirt diapers! And what do you do with 70 donated pillowcases? With a few snip-snips, some elastic, seam binding, and basic sewing skills, they can be pillowcase dresses! These also will be sent to Orphan Grain Train, a disaster relief organization.

Looking for a service project? "Google" witness bracelets, crocheted witness puppets, or eye glass cases for MOST. Also "Google" directions for the tee shirt diapers and pillowcases dresses.

A Final Goodbye

Vivian Nelson, Toledo Zone

If you have been around LWML for a l.o.n.g time, you might remember Rhea Zarn. She was LWML Ohio District President in the late eighties and she was the chairman of the Host Committee for the 50th Anniversary convention held in Cleveland in 1991. She was a wonderful example to the women who knew her and an unofficial mentor for dozens of LWML members in Ohio.

Rhea and her husband Ed donated their bodies to the Medical College of Ohio so that future doctors could study them. Recently her family held a short memorial service in which their cremains were finally put to rest. They invited church members to attend with the family. Rhea's niece had designed special urns for them. Mary Fowler, her daughter, told us a little about



the urns. She said that the theme for Rhea's urn would either be her favorite song "Sheep May Safely Graze," or the other choice would have to be LWML. (The sheep won.) For Ed's urn, there were Christmas trees (he grew them) and his bi-plane signature (he was a Navy veteran from WWII).

After the service, Kathy Ewald, a church member, presented the family with three small items. For Ed,

she contributed a small American flag and one of the crepe paper poppies that we see on Memorial Day to say we will not forget. For Rhea, she brought a Mite Box. The box immediately received some coins from her son, Paul. The items were placed in the containers that went into the ground. So, when Jesus returns, our Rhea will be ready with her Mite Box!



Thank you, God, for women like Rhea who help us to know that you will always provide the support we need to do your will. In Jesus' name, Amen.



ODE Submission

Deadlines for article submissions:

- Spring January 5
- Summer April 5
- Fall July 5
- Winter October 5



Submit news, pictures, and articles for approval for
 Zones: to the Zone President
 District: to the District President

Mighty Mites

Directing Thrivent Choice Dollars to mites:

Direct to LWML Ohio District by selecting **LWML Ohio District, Olmsted Twp, Ohio Cuyahoga Co**

Joyful Response® to Mites: To donate mites directly from your checking account each month contact **Judy Sonnenberg**. She will send you a Joyful Response® form. It can be set up quickly.

Contributions to Mites, Memorials, Honors: Mites Remittance Forms are available on the district website or from **Judy Sonnenberg**, Financial Secretary. Make checks payable to "LWML Ohio District" and send with completed form to Judy.

Websites:

- District www.lwmlohio.org
- National www.lwml.org
- Concordia Publishing www.cph.org
- Roberts Rules www.robertsrules.org

Honors and Memorials Contributions: send with contribution form (available on LWML Ohio District website) to:

Financial Secretary, Judy Sonnenberg
 16539 US 6, Napoleon, OH 43545
 419-592-8191, mbc46@bright.net



Quarterly and ODE Subscriptions

Quantity changes and address changes should be submitted to **Kim Klein**, Subscription Manager

DEADLINE FOR REDUCTION IS MARCH 1, 2020
SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 2

Annual Subscription Costs

Quarterly	1-9 Copies	\$6.50/each
Quarterly	10+ Copies	\$5.00/each
ODE	All quantities	\$2.50/each



Note Donations toward the cost of the Quarterly and ODE on the Mites Remittance Form and mail to Judy Sonnenberg, Financial Secretary.



Contact Information

Contributions & Donations for:

- ♥ Mites, Memorials, Honors
- ♥ Joyful Response® to Mites
- ♥ Quarterly & ODE

Judy Sonnenberg, Financial Secretary

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Subscription Changes for Quarterly & ODE

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Karen Shanahan, ODE Editor

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Mite Boxes

Order direct from Concordia Publishing House
www.cph.org, on Home page, click LWML
 (Website accessible from Ohio District Website)

Website Calendar Items, Pictures, etc.

Billie Lelle, Webmaster

bllele@roadrunner.com