



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Summer
2020

Lutheran Woman's Quarterly

Volume
56-4

Ohio District Edition – ODE

DO THE FIVE Help stop coronavirus

- 1 **HANDS** Wash them often
- 2 **ELBOW** Cough into it
- 3 **FACE** Don't touch it
- 4 **SPACE** Keep safe distance
- 5 **HOME** Stay if you can

Not What We Expected!

The first story I included in an article was entitled "The Most Valuable Thing," and it emphasized how important time is in a person's life. Time certainly has flown by in my life as my four-year term as LWML Ohio District President is quickly coming to an end. I would like to finish my term just as I began my term, with a story entitled "Lunch with God."



A little boy packed his lunch with two sandwiches and two bottles of water. He slipped on his jacket, kissed his mom goodbye, and headed to the park, telling her, "I'm going to have lunch with God". The boy walked a few blocks, found a bench and sat down next to a man – a very old man, with wisps of gray hair, hunched over his cane. The boy opened his lunch bag and started to eat, noticing that the old man looked hungry. Without saying a word, he handed the man a sandwich and a bottle of water. The two of them sat all afternoon, sitting on the bench, eating, drinking, and not saying a word.

Finally, it was time for the little boy to head home. He quickly picked up the trash and put it in the barrel. But before he started home, he turned to the old man and gave him a hug. The boy dashed home and ran into his house. His mom asked him how his afternoon was. The boy grinned and said, "It was great. I had lunch with God." Mom asked. "How is God?" The boy replied, "He's fine, but he's a lot older than I expected."

The old man slowly started home, carefully moving step by step. As he shuffled up his driveway, his neighbor called, "What did you do this afternoon?" The man replied, "I had lunch with God." The neighbor exclaimed, "Oh! How is God?" The old man smiled, "He is very generous, but he is a lot younger than I expected!"

Not everything in life happens as we plan or expect. I don't think anyone expected what has happened in the world, our country, or our state in the last few weeks or months. We have had our lives turned upside down. COVID-19 has changed our routines, our financial stability, our interaction with family and friends, and the way we attend or don't attend worship services. Did we expect this disease to bring such turmoil into our lives? NO, we certainly could not have planned or expected this crisis. But God has an answer to this tumult and discord. In John 16:33b, our Lord tells us, *In this world, you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world.*

COVID-19 has caused people to become anxious about the future. We are frantic about loved ones who are sick and possibly hospitalized. We are worried that medical teams are pushed to exhaustion taking care of patients. We are stressed about the lack of a cure for this disease. Daily we are bombarded with news reports, statistics and press conferences. We live with fear, worry, anxiety, and a feeling of panic. Who knew toilet paper would cause so much stress. Did we expect this feeling of apprehension? NO, we did not expect or want this uneasiness. But God reassures us that He is with us. God tells us in Nahum 1:7, *The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; He knows those who take refuge in Him.*

I know you have concerns about the 2020 LWML Ohio District Convention in Dayton. At this time, the convention to celebrate our Lord and Savior will take place June 19

(continued on page 2)

Inside the ODE

- Page 2
 - Pastor's Corner
 - Structure
 - IMPORTANT MSG
- Page 3
 - Christian Life
 - Servant Resources
- Page 4
 - Public Relations
 - Mites
 - Memorials/Honors
 - Interest Session
- Page 5
 - Volunteers Needed
 - A Poem
- Page 6
 - Two Ingatherings
 - Webmaster
- Page 7
 - Zones
- Page 8
 - Contact Information
- Pages 9-13
 - Nominees
- Page 10
 - 2021 Shirts
 - Pix to Color
- Page 12
 - Convention Theme
- Page 13
 - YWR
- Page 14
 - Interest Sessions
 - Servant Events
 - Mailbox Member
- Page 15-16
 - Mission Grant Ballot
- Page 16
 - Exec. Committee
 - 2020 Convention

IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ!

We are always in God's Hands, and He will provide all we need to keep us safe at all times, sadly,

2020 LWML Ohio District Convention is Cancelled

Remember When?

- ◆ Remember when the Corona virus changed business as usual?
- ◆ Remember when it changed life as usual?
- ◆ Remember when it changed how we gathered (or didn't gather) in church?
- ◆ Remember all the concern if certain events would happen or not?
- ◆ Remember when you got phone calls from your pastor, elder, and/or fellow Christian from your congregation?
- ◆ Remember when you made or received cards of encouragement in the mail?
- ◆ Remember when your technology challenged pastor or congregation became internet sensations?
- ◆ Remember when people were hungering for hope and listened a little more carefully to the Gospel?
- ◆ Remember when we were not too busy?
- ◆ Remember when all those subscriptions on the internet became free?
- ◆ Remember when so many people walked in our neighborhoods?
- ◆ Remember when neighbors checked on one another?
- ◆ Remember longing to get back to church?
- ◆ Remember how God provided for our needs in many and various ways?
- ◆ Remember how God was with us, calming our fears, strengthening our faith?

Hope FULLY on God's grace! Virus or not.

Keith Witte, Jr. Pastoral Counselor



Being Orderly is Good!

In 1 Corinthians 14:26-40, Paul is talking about an orderly worship service. I always enjoy the orderly liturgical services of the Lutheran Church, Scripture readings, the creed, prayers, sermons, and songs. All this is done in an orderly way.

I have attended some non-liturgical church services once or twice and I always feel something is missing. Order is appreciated in our worship services, but also in our lives. When things run smoothly we are calmer and probably accomplish more. *But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way* (1 Corinthians 14:40).



This definitely applies to business meetings. When rules are set and followed, meetings run smoother and much can be accomplished.

It is important to be sure your organization bylaws are up to date. If you need help updating zone or unit bylaws contact the Structure Committee. We are here to help.

Deborah Wesche, Chairman, Structure Committee

Not What We Expected! (continued from page 1)

through June 21 at the Marriott at the University of Dayton. We will join together to glorify and honor God with our laughter and tears, our songs and prayers, and our praise and thanks. We will delight in sharing fellowship and friendship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. We will enjoy visiting the exhibits, shopping at the LWML store, and exploring all the amenities of the hotel. We will participate in Holy Communion during the opening worship service and dedicate ourselves to serving the Lord with gladness in the closing service.



I personally invite you to come to the 2020 LWML Ohio District Convention. Come and be part of the faith-filled weekend! Come, because God will be there! In Zephaniah 3:17, we hear these words, *The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exalt over you with loud singing.*

Jesus has promised to never leave us or forsake us. He will always be with us. That promise is what we need and expect from our living and loving Lord.

Jeanne Schimmelmann, President

What's "IN-STORE" for You?

"SOON AND VERY SOON..." it will be time for our LWML Ohio District Convention, being held at the Marriott at the University of Dayton. I do hope you have already registered for this wonderful "GOD-BLESSED" event. If not, please get "online" and do so post-haste.

What's "IN-STORE" for you at the "God-blessed" event? Providing an inspirational "STORE" with wonderfully diverse items available for purchase is the job of the Christian Life Committee.

How can I be so positive and declare this to be a "God-blessed" event you may ask? Because this event has been prayed for daily by many, many of you who have asked Him personally. Our faith tells us HE has blessed our LWML event.

Some items we will have "IN (our) STORE" for you include those all-purpose Mustard Seeds, how I love them! I like to purchase two of each set, one to include in birthday cards, grieving cards, valentines, etc. The second set I personally read with the wonderful, personal messages.

They all are truly special.

We have **INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS**, multiple themed **DAILY DEVOTIONALS** for newlyweds, parenting, women, encouragement, and other books too numerous to list.

Other items include LWML clothing, LWML jewelry, and special gifts: mugs, coasters, children's gifts, and more. There are 2021 LWML convention shirts of multiple sizes for men and women in inventory.

Even if you say you're not a shopper, please stop by and say "hello" to us. Our store will be open when convention is not in session. We hope to see each and every one of you "in (our) store."

Please continue with your prayers for this convention. Personally encourage the ladies of your church to attend a most wonderfully uplifting, God-inspired, God-blessed time in their lives. Pray that the corona virus will be past and for all those who have been personally affected by it.

Barbara Berner, Member, Christian Life Committee

It's a Topsy-turvy World

Oh, how I miss my routines! I understand why it's important to stay at home (except for grocery shopping and the bank drive-through), but the days are all blending together. I thought, "Good, I'll have plenty of time to..." but as the days pass, I have less and less inclination to do anything. Like most "little kids," I'm much better off with structure in my life.

But then I look outside, and there's structure everywhere. The sun rises and sets every day; the flowers are starting to bloom as spring replaces winter.



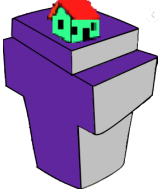
And part of my routine is still the same, Monday is still laundry day. I still substitute as organist at a sister congregation whose regular organist is facing major health issues. Yes, we are videotaping the services to an empty sanctuary. But that video goes out over Facebook to bring God's Word to the members who are also following the stay at home order.

And God has a plan for all this. *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future* (Jeremiah 29:11). A plan means that there is structure, even if we cannot see the shape of it. So, let's all just take one topsy-turvy day at a time. When this is over, review your bylaws, make provisions for long-distance meetings, and sing "This Is My Father's World" while we thank Him for each new day.

Beth Christopherson, Vice President, Servant Resources Department

Our Rock

During these uncertain times, many things I take for granted have been changed. I still get up and go to work (I have an essential job), housework needs to get done, meals need prepared, but the evening and weekend activities that I would grumble about have been stopped for the time being. There is no more choir or hand bell practice, no more Sunday dinner with extended family, no more visiting my daughter in Michigan. Even summer plans are being changed.



Isn't it wonderful that *Jesus Christ is the same: yesterday, today and forever* (Hebrews 13:8). He is our Rock during this difficult time. He gives us peace and comfort. Jesus is our Light and He asks us to be the light for others.

We can be his hands and feet for our communities, even while on lock down. Pick up some needed supplies for someone who is completely homebound, call a friend to cheer them up, pray for those on the front lines. Check out our websites, lwmlhio.org and lwml.org, for more inspiration and resources.

Ruth Mowery, Director, Public Relations Committee

Gracious Giving

LWML ladies, your gracious giving exceeded the goal for this biennium. Mission Grants are paid in full!

I am hoping and praying that no form of illness has reached any of you. Speaking of praying, those lines for prayer to the Father are never overloaded or unavailable. I would venture He is hearing from a few more people now than a few weeks ago.

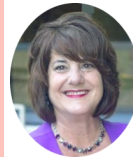
Sometimes He needs to remind us that we are dependent on Him for everything. As Jesus told the disciples in Matthew 6: 31-33, *So don't worry, as pagans do, seek first the kingdom of God, and He will care for you* (paraphrased). The Lord's blessings to you all In Christ, as we venture into the future. Remember, God is still in charge.

Judy Sonnenberg, Financial Secretary

2018-2020 Mission Goal is \$192,000.00

	March 2020	Biennium Total
Mites Received	\$17,632	\$158,049
Joyful Response	\$95	\$2,390
Thrivent Choice	\$597	\$6,525
Quarterlies & ODEs	\$2,792	\$16,004
Honors/Memorials	\$820	\$10,242
Stamps		\$123
Total Income	\$21,936	\$193,334

Additional Interest Session



We are pleased to have Linda Gage, LWML's National Gift Planning Counselor, leading an interest session:

Gifts of Love **Returning God's Blessings**

Discover how you can share your faith, minimize taxes, bless your family, and make a lasting impact on ministry through your estate. Linda helps individuals and couples plan and direct their passion for giving to family and all ministries of the church, like LWML.



Come and hear how planning for yourself, your family, and growing God's kingdom can be done to meet your specific goals. Each participant will receive a free planning booklet.

Gifts of Love is an official ministry of LWML and provides these services at no cost to you.

Please note that this Interest Session is not listed on the registration forms. If you are interested in attending, contact Beth Marth at bmarth@columbus.rr.com or 614-282-7143.

Memorials—Honors

January—March 2020

In Memory of:

Kay Alexander
Lavina Boesling
Frank Hall
Melba Lunz
Sue Meyer
Darrel Pauley
Elizabeth Skipworth
Elaine Tatge

In Honor of:

Judy Bartholomew
Chrystal Carroll
Pat Costello
Joan Fry
Julia Kunka
Carol P. Leslie
Ruth Mason

Here Am I, Send Me!

Isaiah 6:8: *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" And I said: "Here am I. Send me!"*

Are you ready to pack your suitcase and go where the Lord sends you? Could that special place that requires your help be Lexington, Kentucky? The Indiana, Michigan and Ohio Districts will be co-hosting the LWML 2021 Convention in Lexington, June 24–June 27, 2021. We are calling you to help!

Do you like to cuddle infants and play with toddlers? You could be the perfect servant to be:

Director of the Nursery

Are you enthusiastic about giving directions and helping people find their way, you could serve as:

Director of Charter Buses

Did you ever dream of chauffeuring special people around town, then you would be perfect serving as:

Director of VIP Drivers

God has a need for servants, and He is calling you! Please contact Jeanne Schimmelmann at jeanne4lwmlloh@yahoo.com or 440-943-5497 to say, "Yes, here am I, Send me!"

You can also sign up to be a worker at the 2021 LWML Convention booth, located in the Trade Winds Room. **(The exhibits area during the 2020 Ohio District Convention)**. Many jobs require many workers. Come and serve the Lord in Lexington!



Color the picture!



A Poem

This is a verse that was written by a friend of mine, Rae Whitney. Last week I asked her permission and that of her publisher to use one of her poems. She told me about this one she was writing. She sent it to me and told me to feel free to share it. Her publisher at Selah Publishing, David Schaap, also approved, especially since it is a timely piece.



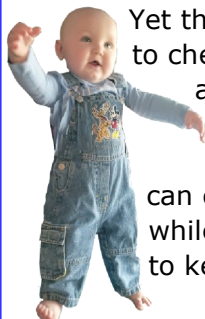
Rae E. Whitney was born at Chippenham, Wilts, England. She received a B.A. (honors) in English from the University of Bristol, and a Certificate of Education. On December 31, 1960, Rae married Rev. Clyde E. Whitney, Rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Scottsbluff, Nebraska. She assisted her husband in many areas and locations of his ministry until his death in 1992.

Deborah Wesche

A Tiny Thing We Cannot See

A tiny thing we cannot see
or taste or feel or hear,
has shut down nearly half our world
and brought distress and fear.
We've read about the plagues of old:
now a virus gone astray
has caused much sickness, death and grief,
with new reports each day.

But many helpers brave this plague
and serve those most in need,
and offer comfort, help and care
through many a word and deed.
We thank our true and gallant ones
who risk their lives to bring
relief and help to sickened folk
touched by that tiny thing.



Yet there are other tiny things
to cheer each anxious heart,
a smile, a wave, a caring note,
though we must stay apart;
a phone call, email, Facebook, Skype,
can curb anxiety,
while faith and hope and love abound
to keep our spirits free.

Rae E Whitney 2020 © 2020 www.selahpub.com

2020 Convention Ingathering 1



Jeremiah's Letter, Inc. was founded in 1978 by a group of churches in Dayton's urban center as a community outreach ministry to support people living in poverty. They

based the ministry on Jeremiah 29:7 which says, *Seek ye the well being of your city, for its welfare will determine your welfare* (NRSV paraphrased). Jeremiah's Letter, Inc. is our designated ingathering for the 2020 LWML Ohio District Convention.

This ministry provides meals, housing, and assistance with obtaining needed documents for employment.

Below are lists of the items most needed for their ministry. Please encourage all your church ladies to donate, even if they are unable to attend the convention. The outreach is not for long term assistance. Travel or sample size personnel care items are encouraged. Gently used kitchen items are certainly acceptable.

Items in great need: Feminine hygiene products, wipes, personal care products, school supplies, Windex, Bibles, children's and Christian books, crosses. Other items needed: large spatulas, serving spoons.

In the hopes of increasing the variety of donations, larger items are assigned to each zone (see list in next column).

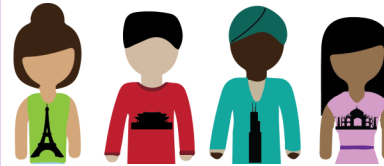
Thank you in advance for your donations.

Diane Rhonemus, Member, Convention Committee

List for larger items assigned to each zone:

Akron-Youngstown:	Handheld can openers
Central:	Cookie sheets, loaf pans
Cincinnati:	Muffin and cake pans
Cleveland East:	Skillets
Cleveland South West:	Small pots for cooking soups, vegetables
Defiance:	Silverware
Lima Van Wert:	Hand held can openers
Lorain Medina:	Cookie sheets, loaf pans
Miami Valley:	Muffin and cake pans
Napoleon:	Skillets
Northeast:	Small pots for cooking soups, vegetables
Toledo:	Silverware

2020 Convention Ingathering 2



The International Friendship Center mission is "building bridges in Dayton" to the international community

by offering free classes and social events. *The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my Savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety. I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved* (Psalm 18: 2-3)! To support this mission, donations of \$10 and \$20 Walmart gift cards are requested.



Inquiring People Want to Know:

- ◆ *Where can I find the bylaws?*
- ◆ *How can I obtain a Mites Remittance Form?*
- ◆ *What are the current mission grants?*
- ◆ *How can I obtain a past issue of the ODE?*
- ◆ *Where can I find a Bible study or devotion?*
- ◆ *I lost my registration forms – help!*

These are only a few questions that have come to me. When they do, I quickly refer the "inquiring mind" to the LWML Ohio District website at lwmlohio.org. WHY? Because all of that information, and much more, can be found there, just by looking around on the site. If you have difficulty finding something, use the website

search engine to help.



Spend some time visiting the site and learn more about our district and zones. Click on some of the quick links to find items available through LWML, the LCMS and LHM. You might want to consider signing up for the e-mail so you can receive important information from the district via an e-blast.

Many of the answers to your questions are just a click away, so **CLICK AWAY!**

Billie Lelle, Webmaster

Akron-Youngstown Zone

Submitted by Jeanie Dinehart, President

Our Fall Retreat on October 19, was at Zion Lutheran in Akron. "The Pathway to Prayer" was the theme based on Luke 11:1-2, *Lord, teach us to pray as John taught his disciples. And He said to them, when you pray, say, Father hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.* Diana Schnak lead us in a study of

prayer and a fun game of Bible bingo. She and Susan Weiss performed a sweet sketch about a young child's first time praying and listening for God's response.

Our in-gatherings: Zion's Food Pantry, food items; and items for Akron Pregnancy Services. After lunch we made blankets for, Sleep in Heavenly Peace charity. They make beds for children who do not have beds. We had a gathering of mites and prayers.

Central Zone

Submitted by Hope Boring, Member

At our Winter Retreat at Darby Cedar Lodge, on January 25, 2020, we enjoyed Pastor Zoebler's devotion on being "Supreme" members of LWML by "Soaking Up Jesus In Prayer." Our skit consisted of grumbles on being a Christian instead of praying about the situation and changing our behavior through God's Grace.

We enjoyed fellowship and lunch with food from Beef O'Brady's. Our afternoon speaker was Deaconess Dehlia DeLeon from St. John's Dublin, who spoke on prayer: singing the Psalms as prayer; waking up to Martin Luther's morning prayer; confessional prayer; and praying for different situations in life. She gave resources to guide us in prayer such as the Bible and



Central Zone photos: In-gathering items; Diana Schnack, Deaconess Dehlia and members; Pastor.

Luther's Small Catechism to name a few.

After lunch, our afternoon speaker was Deaconess Dehlia DeLeon from St. John's Dublin, who spoke on prayer. We brought hygiene items for Shining Starz theshiningstarz.org, providing love and resources to victims and survivors of addiction, homelessness, and human trafficking

Cincinnati Zone

Submitted by Peggy Kelm, Member

At Trinity Lutheran Church on a long gray extra leap year day, February 29, LWML members were glad to get together! President Nicole Dowdell, Immanuel Lutheran, Cincinnati, gave the welcome and an update of zone information. Pastoral Counselor Greene's Bible study was about being willing to serve others in need.

The invited speaker, Sandra Curtis. She works throughout the Tri-State area to educate people about Hospice: what Hospice is and who they are, what they provide, and how they do it. She taught "Hospice for Beginners", explaining the difference between palliative care and hospice care.



After the program we prepared Comfort Bags (filled with uncooked rice). Fifty-one bags were donated to Hospice of Cincinnati. Patients use them as warm or



cool compresses. Thanks to Jan Remmele of Zion Lutheran, for providing sewn empty bags which were prepared in advance.

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

REDUCTIONS for 2020 are closed.

Annual Subscription Costs

ODE All quantities \$2.50/each

Subscription Cost starting Summer 2020

Quarterly 1-9 Copies \$7.50/each
Quarterly 10+ Copies \$6.00/each

Note Donations toward the cost of the ODE and Quarterly 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

16539 US 6, Napoleon, OH 43545
419-592-8191, mbc46@bright.net (Oct 2019)

Subscription Changes for Quarterly & ODE

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kimkleinlwml@neo.rr.com

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Karen Shanahan, ODE Editor

3633 Denise Dr., Toledo, OH 43614
419-380-0244, kesjr@att.net

Mite Boxes

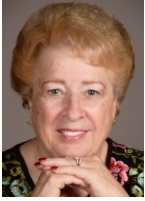
Order direct from Concordia Publishing House
www.cph.org, on Home page, click LWML
(Website accessible from Ohio District Website)

Website Calendar Items, Pictures, etc.

Billie Lelle, Webmaster

bllele@roadrunner.com

President



Pat Malas

Society: All offices; President numerous times.

Zone: President numerous times.

District: Vice President of Human Care; Co-Chair of the 2020 convention; convention delegate three times; attended convention 10 or more times.

Church: Currently in charge of church nursery; serve as a member of Campus Ministry Team and support Ministry Action Team (Ministry to Muslims); in lead of child care; altar guild; kitchen team. Previously, taught Sunday school; was VBS Director; Church Business Secretary; head of annual Church Tent Sale.

Community: Blood and cancer drives; Girl Scout Leader; deliver food to the poor, shut ins, and ill.

Employment: Retired (worked in data processing, service industry, owned a housekeeping business).

Family: Married to David for 55 years. We have two children: Kathryn (Malas) Buller, Daryl Malas, and nine grandchildren.

Strengths: Have been in leadership for years; genuinely like being organized and leading; worked in industry and church sector; owned my own business; active member serving in multiple levels of leadership in the LWML for almost fifty years.



Vivian Nelson

Society: President.

Zone: President three times, four years each; help organize the annual work days.

District: Vice President Christian Life (in the 1990's); Financial Secretary (2012 to 2016).

Church: On the education team; teach Sunday School; organize and teach VBS (many years); served on stewardship committee; choir member.

Community: Red Cross blood donor; volunteer with MOST Ministries; sew items for Orphan Grain Train.

Employment: Teach math part-time at the University of Toledo.

Family: Two daughters, Jeanne and CJ, two grandchildren, Ray and Anna; four sisters; and mother (who is 96 years old!).

Strengths: Dependent on God for daily guidance; organized; good listener.

Vice President Human Care (continued on next page)



Ann Marie Bollas

Society: Christian Life Committee Chairman, President.

Zone: Vice President; Retreat Committee; Bylaws Committee; President.

District: Member and officer of multiple committees including: Christian Life Committee Chairman; Structure Committee member; Procedures Manual Update; Recording Secretary (2006-2010); President (2012-2016).

National: Member of Human Care; Member of Growth & Development; Board of Directors; candidate for Nominating Committee; Coordinator; Communications Department for 2021 convention.

Church: Mission Committee Chairman; Christian Life Department Chairman; Sunday School Superintendent and teacher; Prayer Circle Chairman; Food Pantry helper; Coffee Hour Coordinator; Usher; Hand Bell Choir member; Outreach Department member; Stephen Ministry.

Community: Volunteer for Greater Cleveland Heart Walk & Run, Lake/Geauga County Heart Walk, Annual Walk to End Alzheimer's, and Zion Food Pantry.

Employment: Legal Secretary, Dworken & Bernstein Co., L.P.A., Painesville, Ohio, 25 years.

Family: Widow, two sons, two grandsons, one step-granddaughter. I'm the firstborn of seven children.

Strengths: Organization; communication; focused; self-starter; leadership; committed; listener; proactive; experienced; and participated in LWML since 1973.



Thanks be to God! We are HIS!

We are:

- Held by God's Word
- Inspired to share HIS Gospel
- Surrounded by HIS Grace

Vice President Human Care (continued from previous page)



Diane Rhonemus

Society: Member of Baby Angel Gown group; applied for Thrivent cards for Easter egg hunt and to purchase socks and gloves for the homeless.

Zone: Housing chairman for 2012 convention, accepted this new challenge, and enjoyed serving in this capacity.

District: Currently, Chairman of Human Care Committee; assisted with the retreats.

Church: Ladies Guild.

Community: Active in Clinton County Pork Producers. I make the Queen's Banners and assist with the ceremony; member of Clinton County Republican Central Committee; organize booths for the annual fair; in charge of decorating for annual Lincoln day dinner; planned and carried out fund raisers for Clinton Memorial Hospital Employee scholarship fund.

Employment: Currently employed at Clinton Memorial Hospital working as-needed positions; registered nurse specializing in oncology; retired six years from direct oncology care; educate newly hired nurses to computer charting system; occasionally work in Intensive Care primarily watching heart monitors.

Family: Married to Neil, a bacon farmer; son, Lucas, is a librarian for Clermont County; daughter, Lisa, teaches third and fourth grade. My Mom, Helen Schafer, was an LWML member her whole married life and looked forward to national conventions attending from 1969 until her passing in 2010.

Strengths: As a nurse, compassion is a strength; also, organization and problem-solving. My joy is serving others and LWML where called to serve.

Financial Secretary



Janet Pauley

Society: Currently Treasurer; previously served as President.

Zone: Past three years, serving as Treasurer for Central Zone.

District: Served on the Christian Life Committee, six years; Chairman the last two years.

Church: Current activities include choir; praise band; altar guild; communion assistant; chime choir. Previously helped with outreach projects, including Habitat for Humanity home build.

Community: Was on the outreach team for "We Are Cherished Ohio," two years.

Employment: Worked in travel industry over 40 years; Senior Travel Consultant last 18 years with BCD Travel.

Family: Recently widowed; my family at home consists of my cat, Charlie. Other family members include my mother, sister, brother, nieces, nephew and other extended family.

Strengths: One of my strengths is attention to detail. I deal with complex things every day at my job; used to doing what it takes to get the job done correctly.



Denise Simpkins

District: 2020 Convention Treasurer.

Church: Sunday school teacher and superintendent.

Community: Active in 4-H (treasurer at 14, president at 18); sew lap quilts for Hospice Veterans.

Employment: Customer Service Representative, Heartland Specialty Converting; worked in banks and credit unions for 18 years.

Family: Married to Mark for 30 years; adult sons, Kevin (lives in Arizona), and Jon, (lives in Ohio); Grand-fur-child, "Baby Bear."

Strengths: Creative through hobbies such as sewing, quilting, knitting, decoupage, writing poems; stewardship through LWML and church.



It's time to order the 2021 LWML Convention shirt. The order form is available at LWML.org/events/conventioncentral/2021 Convention. Scroll down and find link to the PDF form. Pastor Moog modeled the man's 2021 convention shirt and this is the example of the woman's shirt.



Vice President Servant Resources



Nicole Dowdell

Society: Planned the servant event "Jesus Loves the Little Children."

Zone: President (two terms); organizes LWML events.

District: Attended 2016 convention.

Church: Serves on Church Council, member of Elders' Committee and DORCAS Society.

Community: Math mentor/tutor; Women's Alliance Inc. 2010 to present; Veteran Community Focus and Support, Ohio and Kentucky; 2011-2015 National Veteran Co-Champion, General Electric and Synchrony Financial; 2016-Present, Military Business Resource, Fifth Third Bank; Advocates for Youth Education, Cincinnati 2013-Present; supporting academic achievements of youth.

Employment: Immediately after high school, joined United States Army; following military service, employed at General Electric (GE) in a fast-paced leadership program; retired in 2013 from Army Reserves; Vice President and Director of Fraud Operations.

Family: Husband, Gary Dowdell, retired CFO of Proctor & Gamble Co.; currently serving as Ohio District Board Chairman.

Strengths: A servant's heart; prayer warrior; attention to people; love for the Lord; and a hearty laugh!



Debbie Wesche

Society: Served as Christian Life Chairman; President; Secretary.

Zone: Served as Christian Life Chairman; Secretary; President.

District: Served as Chairman for Christian Life and Structure; appointed Publicity Chairman; committee chairman for the 50th national convention; currently chairman for the Prayer Committee for 2021 national convention.

Church: Ladies Guild; taught VBS, Sunday School, Midweek School, and Bible classes.

Community: While my children were in school, helped with different activities through the parent organization; as a teacher, encouraged family involvement in education; supported 4-H programs.

Employment: Taught Reading Recovery, kindergarten, beginning garden, Title I, and gifted classes for 26 years.

Family: Married to William. We have two daughters, Nicole and Joyanna, and two sons, Gregory and Brian; eight grandchildren, Mina, Anneka, Greydon, Lucas, Austin, Carissa, Greta, and Ian.

Strengths: I put my faith and trust in our Lord, knowing He will guide me along the way. I enjoy working with people, am flexible, and go with the flow.

Junior Pastoral Counselor



Ryan Kleimola

Society: Available to support the Trinity LWML Society as needed.

Zone: Retreat presenter in March 2018 and 2020; Toledo Zone Counselor, 2016 to present.

Church and Employment: Associate Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Toledo, Ohio.

Community: Volunteer at Toledo Hospital; LCC Comfort Dog Handler (Anna Comfort Dog Team).

Family: Wife, Kati, is an artist. We have five children, Daniela (14), Lila (11), Caleb (six), Daisy (four), and Levi (two).

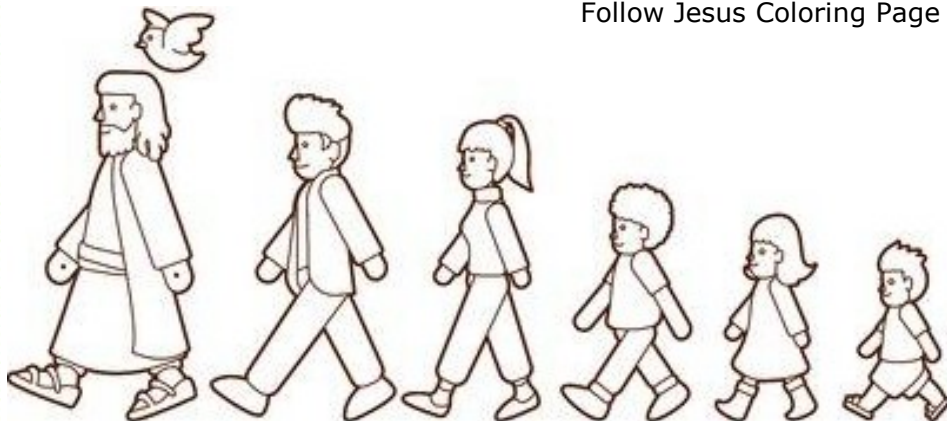
Strengths: Lighthearted; relatable; encouraging.

NOT BY SIZE IS MY GIFT
JUDGED,



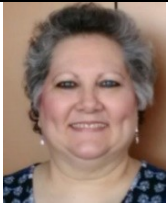
BUT BY HOW MUCH OF ME
THERE IS IN IT.

A.W. TOZER



Follow Jesus Coloring Page

Nominating Committee (continued on next page)



Janice Breitner

Society: Member, 1992 to present.

Zone: President (2016 – 2020); Secretary (four years); Publicity Chairman (six years).

District: Secretary to Ohio District President (four years).

Church: Bible study; volunteer for various church programs.

Community: LWML (28 years); MOST Ministries (four years).

Employment: Mobile Notary Signing Agent (Notary Public/Owner).

Family: Craig, Husband; Maggie, puppy; Amy and Juli, stepdaughters.

Strengths: Strong faith in God; cancer survivor; dedicated; organizational skills; people skills; creative; like helping others.



Phyllis Bouic

Society: Various positions including past president.

Zone: Various positions including immediate past president.

District: Past Nominating Committee; past Financial Secretary; 2002 convention Host Committee Chairman; 2018 convention Host Committee Exhibits Chairman.

Church: Choir; altar committee.

Community: Mobile Meals volunteer; Advisory Board for Memorial Mobile Meals; former 4-H advisor.

Employment: Retired Medical Technologist.

Family: Husband, Don; four adult children; 12 grandchildren; live on a dairy and grain farm.

Strengths: Good organizational skills; pray for help from my Lord and Savior.



Heidi Day

Society: Current President; previous, Chairman of Christian Life and Human Care.

Zone: Current Recording Secretary; member and Vice President, Christian Life Committee.

Church: Current Recording Secretary for Council; participated in VBS; led several Women’s Bible studies; sang with Praise Band.

Employment: Customer Service Representative with PNC Bank.

Family: Married for 37 years and have one adult son.

Strengths: Compassionate; committed to serving LWML.



Nadine Dlugas

Society: Member since 2016; assist with rallies, workdays, and monthly LWML Sundays

Zone: Regularly attend Zone meetings and rallies

District: Delegate at the 2018 convention; attended 2019 national convention.

Church: Altar Guild Secretary and Directress; VBS (teacher, decorations and crafts); Secretary for Church Council; Sunday school teacher; assisted DCE with Christmas pageant costumes and decorations.

Community: Helped with Tammy’s Walk (help domestic abuse victims); donated over 50 units of whole blood; helped with First Aid booth at several Promedica-sponsored events.

Employment: Employed as adjunct Owens Community College nursing instructor (for the RN two-year program); retired from Promedica Health System.

Family: Married to Tom; one daughter, two sons, one stepdaughter, three granddaughters (six years, four years, 10 months.)

Strengths: Detail oriented; organized but always willing to try/learn new things!

2020 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 when
Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming (1 Peter 1:13)*



Due to Covid 19 "stay at home" mandate, calendar items were not listed in this ODE. Check LWML Ohio District website CALENDAR for planned events.

Nominating Committee (continued from previous page)



Andrea Gernhauser

Society: member since 1992.

Zone: Treasurer (2013–2015, 2017-2019); work days; prepare witness bracelets for MOST Ministries mission trips; tie blankets for Orphan Grain Train and Ronald McDonald House, and items needed for local shelters; volunteer and sort eyeglasses at MOST Ministries.

District: Designed six convention banners for LWML Ohio District and Toledo Zone.

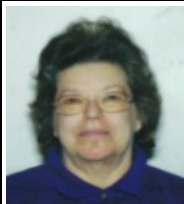
Church: Nebraska Avenue Bible Ministry Outreach volunteer; monthly Bible study at Lutheran Home of Mercy Group Home, 2014-present; Sunday school teacher (20 years); Church Council Recorder (2014-2016 and 2018 to present).

Community: Periodically teach acrylic art classes at church.

Employment: Gloria Dei Office Secretary, 2014-present.

Family: Married 33 years to Joe; one son, Joey (24); two dogs, Jack and Jill; art is my passion.

Strengths: I have a firm faith in Jesus Christ as my Savior; artistic; friendly; compassionate; like helping others.



Sharon Oberhaus

Society: member 56 years; President; Secretary; Chairman of Christian Growth; LWML representative; Chairman, Mother/Daughter banquet; convention delegate several times; mites chairman several times.

Zone: Defiance Zone Retreat Committee, chairman two years; convention committees; President 13 years; Secretary; presently Vice President; Registration Chairman at two conventions.

District: Nominating Committee three times; Christian Life Committee, three conventions (twice chairman); attended president meetings as Zone President and/or convention committee representative.

Church: Volunteer for Ladies Aide, Mission Society, Quilting; Youth counselor 10 years; served as Ladies Guild Church Nursery Chairman; VBS Superintendent; Lenten/Advent Meals Chairman, Easter Breakfast, church meals; choir; Sunday school teacher and director; AAL/Thrivent Chairman 10 years, events chairman four years; on Thrivent board.

Employment: Retired, 15 years preschool teacher assistant.

Family: Widowed (married 45 years to Rev. Paul Oberhaus). Four children, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Corinne Sattler

Zone: active for past seven years as member of board; assist in setting up events; make witness bracelets for MOST Ministries; volunteered to sort glasses at MOST Ministries; tie blankets for Ronald McDonald House and Orphan Grain Train.

District: Attended district conventions; served as a delegate; was also on-call nurse.

Church: Sunday school co-teacher with Mark; chairman of the Family Life ministry team; attend weekly Bible study; sit on Church Council.

Community: Volunteered at the local LSS food pantry for many years; currently making mask covers for healthcare workers to use over the N95 mask.

Employment: Registered nurse working part time at a local hospital in care navigation.

Family: Love being a wife to husband, Mark (40 years). Mom to three sons and grandma to two little boys.

Strengths: Faith; giving; serving; ministering; administration.



Young Woman Representative

The purpose of the Committee on Young Women is to:

Produce and facilitate the Young Woman Representative (YWR) program for the LWML Convention.

Energize and mentor younger women to

connect and grow in relationships as sisters in Christ.

Equip and encourage young women to become more involved in their congregation and the mission of the LWML.

For information, contact Lisa Rhonemus, Leader Development Committee Chairman.

Interest Sessions—Saturday 1-2 p.m.

Being a Christian With Your Muslim Neighbor: POBLO Missionaries Joseph and Heba Beshai would love to share with you how God brought them here from Egypt and is using them to point Muslim people to Jesus in the Dublin/Columbus area. They would like to share with you the ways in which the Holy Spirit is already at work. Joseph and Heba are connecting with Muslims and building relationships. Their mission is to share the loving grace of Jesus with new immigrants and refugees. The area is richly blessed, there are Muslim mosques, Hindu temples and a Sikh temple in the area, and the university has a high number of ethnic students. They would like to share with you how you can be a Christian witness and how you can get involved in this mission.

Who Is Robert and Why Does He Rule?: Bring your questions about running meetings, setting agendas, etc. to this informational gathering. Think you know all there is to know about Robert? Then be prepared to answer OUR questions on how to handle situations that can come up in the best of meetings. We promise to keep this lighthearted (there may be candy involved)!

The Right T-I-M-E: Why does time fly when you are having fun, and linger while we suffer? Knowing that God perfectly sees the right time, sometimes we often find it hard to accept His timing. We explore the Bible as to what God's sense of timing and His accuracy in His purpose. **Please bring your Bible!**

Sharing God's Love: Arlene Brown, Executive Director, and Jill Byrd, RN, Nursing Supervisor of the Home Health Program, will share the history and future of the Carrie Tywman Kids Church. Started in 2007, the Carrie Twyman Kids Church shares God's love with unchurched children ages 5 to 21. Come and hear how your mites have brought children into a relationship with Jesus. Rejoice as you realize that a LWML Ohio District grant has made a difference in the lives of these boys and girls!

PASTORS GIVEN PRIORITY: Rev. Dr. John T. Pless will be speaking on **the Small Catechism and how it is the Christian's field manual for discipleship and prayer.** John Pless has served in parish ministry from 1979-2000 when he was called to the faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. He still serves there as Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions; Director of Field Education; and, as a visiting professor of practical theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria, South Africa. He frequently lectures at seminaries and pastoral conferences in Madagascar, the Philippines, India, Japan, Sweden, Norway and Indonesia. Professor Pless is the author or editor of twelve books, as well as many articles and chapters in theological journals and books. Over the years he has served on multiple LCMS boards, committees and task forces.

Servant Events—Friday 2-4 p.m.

Phil's Friends – Cards of Hope: Provides ongoing support by way of encouraging cards and testimonies. The purpose is to bring consistent hope and support for those who are fighting cancer.

The Soap Project: Focuses on stopping human trafficking in our community and saving missing children. The soap bars will be distributed to motels to get into the hands of those who need help.

No Sew Fleece Pillow: Easy to make fleece pillows for the elderly residents at Graceworks Lutheran Services. There will be a limited number of fabric cutting scissors. If you can bring your own, that would be appreciated.

Witness Bracelets: Creating bracelets that are used by teams from MOST ministries when they go on mission trips. Be a part of sharing the gospel message around the world by making witness bracelets for the mission field.

TO: Certified Delegates and Voting BOD Members:

2020 LWML Ohio District Convention is Cancelled, HOWEVER:

The business of the convention does need to be addressed. The **certified delegates** from each zone and the **voting BOD members** will be receiving **ELECTION PACKETS** through the mail within the next month.

The packets will contain voting instructions, ballots for necessary votes, information about the 2020-2022 budget/mission grant goal, proposed amendments to the bylaws, explanation of mission grants, and biographies of the candidates as well as a stamped return envelope.

LWML Ohio District 2020 Mission Grants Proposals

(Numbered in order of receipt) Page 1 of 2

- #1 Support for Seminary Workers.....\$15,000**
Ohio District Student Aid & Recruitment Committee
To assist the Ohio District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Seminary students who are training for Pastoral ministry in the LCMS with tuition, books and other educational costs.
- #2 Support for Church Work Full Time Students\$10,000**
Ohio District Student Aid & Recruitment Committee
To assist the Ohio District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) full time, residential students preparing for ministries in LCMS church work, with tuition, books and other costs of their education.
- #3 Concordia Theological Seminary Clothing and Food Co-op\$10,000**
Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana
To provide financial assistance for the purchase of perishable items for the Food Cooperative at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana
- #4 Support At Just The Right Time.....\$10,000**
Mission Central-LCMS Board
Solely to give financial assistance to called LCMS missionaries or LCMS World Mission projects in the most efficient way.
- #5 Placing a Missionary Couple to Proclaim Christ to Muslims and Others in Central Ohio\$10,000**
St. John, Dublin, Beautiful Savior Powell, Atonemnet Columbus, St. John Marysville-POBLO International
To enable POBLO to successfully expand the outreach to those who do not know Jesus as the only true Lord and Savior.
- #6 Support for Lutheran Family Services Of Haiti\$10,000**
Ministry in Mission, Jacmel, Haiti
To provide a loving place for orphaned children and elderly to get their basic needs met along with medical and daily spiritual care.
- #7 I Was a Stranger: Lutheran Books for Immigrants\$ 8,500**
Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF), Macomb, Michigan
This funding will provide at least 1,500 books like Luther’s Small Catechism, The Good News About Jesus, A Child’s Garden of Bible Stories, and other materials that introduce non-believers to Jesus Christ in a language they understand.
- #8 Lutheran Military Veterans and Family Members Counseling, Care, Programs and Services.....\$10,000**
Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Fort Wayne, IN
To extend the ministry of the Word by providing Pastoral counseling; needs evaluation for military veterans, contractors and their family members, assist veterans and the family members in identifying local/national community resources available to them to provide for their long term care needs.
- #9 Ohio Division, Orphan Grain Train.....\$ 7,500**
Ohio Division, Orphan Grain Train-Napoleon Ohio
To assist the Ohio Division of the Orphan Grain Train in helping provide hands on Christian humanitarian aid and also supplies God’s word in printed material to accompany the items being sent to meet the physical needs.

LWML Ohio District 2020 Mission Grants Proposals

(Numbered in order of receipt) Page 2

#10 Bringing Christ’s Light to Those Living in Darkness\$10,000

Lutheran Braille Workers Ministry Production Centers in Ohio which is an
Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS

The expenses covered by this grant will include paper and/or equipment, cardboard, and bindings, freight charges, maintenance, or other production related expenses. An Award of \$15,000 will help produce approximately 2,250 volumes over the next two years. This will help thousands of people who are blind or visually impaired to gain better access to God’s saving Word!

**#11 Expanding Christ’s Love with the Aging and Unchurched in Ohio through
Weekly Television on Worship Anew\$ 5,000**

Worship Anew, Fort Wayne, Indiana-Lutheran Ministries Media

To provide funding to reach the rapidly aging and unchurched in Ohio with the life-saving message of the Gospel through weekly broadcast ministry.

#12 Making Jesus Known in U.S. Ethnic Communities.....\$ 4,000

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri

To provide funds to help support the education costs of the ethnic student/church workers enrolled in the Center for Hispanic Studies (CHS) and Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT) groups.

**Executive Committee and
*Appointed Personnel**

- President: Jeanne Schimmelmann
- Vice President Human Care: Julie Gresko
- Vice President Christian Life: Cathy Fernandez
- Vice President Gospel Outreach: Sandy Dixon
- Vice President Servant Resources:
Beth Christopherson
- Recording Secretary: Elizabeth Underwood
- Financial Secretary: Judy Sonnenberg
- Treasurer: Beth Marth
- Senior Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Daniel Herb
- Junior Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Keith Witte
- *ODE Editor: Karen Shanahan
- *Public Relations Director: Ruth Mowery
- *Secretary to the President: Charlotte LePere
- *Parliamentarian: Susan Weiss
- *Archivist/Historian: Donna Foisel
- *Webmaster: Billie Lelle
- Nominating Committee Chairman: Hope Boring

Lima/Van Wert & Miami Valley Zones

Invite you to the

**28th Biennial LWML Ohio District
Convention**

“Hope Fully on God’s Grace

June 19-21, 2020

Marriott Hotel at University of Dayton

1414 South Patterson Blvd

“Gem City” (Dayton, Ohio)



The theme is from 1 Peter 1:13, *Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

Please make plans to join us for an inspiring, fun, and productive weekend.