



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Winter 2020 *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*

Volume

57-2

Ohio District Edition – ODE



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High Anxiety: The New Normal?



This week the administration at my university released results of a student survey. There are growing numbers of students who don't have:
Enough access to the internet
New enough computer equipment to meet class requirements
Quiet places or times to do homework
Enough food to eat
Enough hours at their part-time jobs to pay their bills
Opportunities to make new friends.

Also this week, I participated in a ZOOM meeting with the other LWML district presidents. The prayer concerns I heard were for people losing property in hurricanes and fires, undergoing surgery and/or chemotherapy, and grieving the loss of loved ones. Then you can add in the unemployment of millions of Americans, loneliness because of quarantines, injustices by law enforcement, and maybe even my anxiety about writing this article for the ODE.



This morning, one of the readings I encountered in my devotions was Psalm 27. When I turned to it in my Bible, the words I had written above it were: "Read this in times of anxiety."

Then later this morning I attended the funeral of a friend's husband. The words to one of the songs were directly from Psalm 27. Was that an "Amen!" or not? Let me share some of the comfort I found there.

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid? Nothing that can happen to me is stronger than the Lord who holds my life in his hands.

⁵For in the day of trouble, he will keep me safe in his dwelling. Wherever I am, he is there with me, and God and I face everything together.

¹⁰Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. When loneliness looms and there is no one to talk to, God is always ready to listen. He encourages me to pour out my thoughts to him.

¹³I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Saint Paul also reminds us in Romans 8:28, God works for our good. He is watching over us and blessing us every day. When we're anxious we need to remind ourselves of the blessings we have received in the past.



And finally, ¹⁴Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD. The waiting is hard when we're anxious, isn't it? Remember all the ways he has blessed you in the past. Be absolutely certain that he has not forgotten you. Do you remember that in the "old normal," God was there? Put the anxiety aside. Be strong. Take heart. Wait for the Lord. God is here for you and me in the "new normal" too.

Remembering you in my prayers,
Vivian Nelson, President



Heavenly Mites

On January 8, 2020, my Mom went to Toledo to visit my grandmother. During that visit they were able to say The Lord's Prayer. The next morning Mom got the call that my grandmother had passed away in her sleep. In August, my grandparents' house was sold, so Mom and her siblings had to clear out the house. Mom found my grandmother's Mite Box full of change.



One of the LWML Ohio District mission grants is Worship Anew. When my grandmother was still living at home she would always watch Worship Anew on Sunday mornings. I know she would be

happy to know her mites are supporting wonderful ministries such as Worship Anew. Thank you, Grandma, for being faithful to the LWML until you went to your heavenly home.

Stephanie Petee, Christian Life Committee Chairman

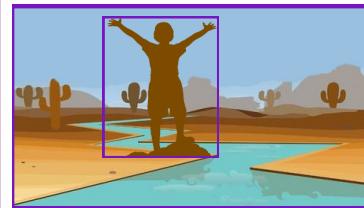
Greetings!

I am Ryan Kleimola. For the next two years, I am your Junior Pastoral Counselor for LWML Ohio District. As a husband to Katie, father to Daniela (14), Lila (12), Caleb (7), Daisy (5), and Levi (3), and as pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Toledo, Ohio, I've noticed lately that things aren't normal. Many are wondering when things will "return to normal." Strangely it seems the "normal" we desire will never be back; or will it?



minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth (Colossians 3:2).

With our minds prioritized by and on things that are above, we return to the normal we need. All of creation is groaning to return to normal. God is continually working to restore. He restores us to Himself through Jesus' death and resurrection. In this, all the abnormality of evil is undone. Until Christ comes again and the new creation is in place for all



believers to enjoy, the Word of God brings us to this new thing that God is doing, He forgives us and makes us very good again. As we are made to be like Christ, we work in Christ to

bring this normalcy to all the world.

Here's a question: do we long for the "normal" found in pre-COVID-19 days, or are we yearning for the "normal" of the One who promises to make all things new? The Lord encourages us to: *Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it (Isaiah 43:18-19).*

What is this new thing that God is promising? It's new life in Christ in all the forms that the resurrection reality takes. This is the normal we all desperately need to return. To call the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting won for us by Christ "normal" may seem belittling it, but it's true.



The "normal" creation, the way it was originally made, is the best thing ever. Remember God saw all that he had made and said it was "very good." Unfortunately sin has caused us to settle for less than the best.

Since humanity, the fall into sin settled into a new "normal" where God does not intend to leave us.

During this pandemic, we have an opportunity to take inventory of the habits and priorities of our lives. Some of these considerations are forced upon us as pandemic precautions dictate and, sadly, as loved ones may have succumbed to the virus. Lord, have mercy. Yet, no matter how close to home this virus has struck you, your life is different these days. In these circumstances, hear this word of the Lord: *Set your*

Many speak of a desire to return to "normal." But, perhaps, our opportunity spiritually is to discern and learn from our experience. These pandemic days can be a significant spiritual growth opportunity.

- † What am I learning from this experience?
- † How has God been active in my life and in the lives of others?
- † In what ways has the presence of Jesus in fulfillment of his promise to be with me and us unto the end of the age been clear (or not) for me?
- † What have I not been able to do that I miss?
- † What have I not been able to do that I do not miss?
- † What did I used to believe that I no longer do?
- † What did I used to believe that I still do?
- † What spiritual practices have been helpful to me?

Excerpt from "Disillusionment Is a Spiritual Gift (Unless It Is Not)" by Bruce M. Hartung in the Concordia Journal Volume 46.3

My hope and prayer for us in the LWML Ohio District is that we continually point one another to the God who restores us all to the normal He intends, even as God uses us to share this restoration for all the world.

Looking forward to working with you in Christ,
Rev. Ryan Kleimola, Junior Pastoral Counselor



He Leads the Parade

I saw a young man talking about his faith on a TV show and was amazed at what this young man shared. He quoted what Jesus said in John 16:30, *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation but take heart; I have overcome the world.*



This verse got me thinking about writing this article. You see my husband has been in the hospital since September 1, 2020. A mass was found on his hip two weeks earlier. When we went to the orthopedic doctor, much to our surprise, he was admitted to the hospital that day. Because of COVID-19, visits were very limited. After he was moved to a rehabilitation center, visits stopped completely and only phone calls and FaceTime were permitted. I felt so lost and alone, but remembering what this young man shared changed things for me.

As Christians, our troubles don't go away. But Jesus says it's going to be okay. Focus on me. Get close to me, be in a relationship with me, and together we will get through this.

Our Pastor once told a story about being at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. While standing along the parade route, all we can see is what is right in front of us. But God can see the whole thing from the very beginning to the very end. He sees the whole parade. He has a plan for us.

Pricilla Shirer shared thoughts about Christ from a devotion, "I am nearer than you dare believe, closer than the air you breathe. If My children could only recognize My Presence, they would never feel lonely again. I know every thought before you think it, every word before you speak it. You can easily deceive other people,



and even yourself, but I read you like an open, large-print book." I love that, maybe not so much that I am a large print book, but that nothing is going to separate me from God.

We must remain focused on the main goal and take the focus off ourselves by helping others. The Lord gives us the courage to take the next step. He is the source of our love, our hope and our service.

Let's be encouragers. Let's stay focused on Jesus. Here are some tips:

1. If you are not doing so already, start your day with Jesus. Pray for others. Read Scripture. Find a devotional book. I love Liz Curtis Higgs, who has written some amazing devotional books. You could pick up the Portals of Prayer at your church or subscribe to an online email devotion. For daily devotions go to www.LWML.org or Lutheran Church Charities at www.lutheranchurchcharities.org.
2. Encourage others by sending greeting cards. I enjoy sending cards to friends and others just to say "Hi" and isn't it fun to get something in the mail addressed just to you other than a bill? You can start a card club with friends and/or the ladies in your LWML group, to send cards to shut-ins, new mothers, to those who just had surgery, or to a friend just to say you are thinking of them and asking how they are doing.

The more we are connected to Jesus, the easier it will be to serve others with love and to be the feet and hands of Jesus to "Serve the Lord with Gladness!"

Oh, and that young man who inspired me was Tim Tebow.

Heidi Day, Human Care Committee Chairman

God Knows Our Needs

In times of uncertainty, like pandemics and political divisions, we can feel anxious, less assured, and wonder how these changes will affect us. It is in these moments we need to turn to prayer and scripture to remind us of God's ever-present grace. We're told, *those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength* (Isaiah 40:31). In Matthew 6:25-34, Jesus tells us not to worry, God knows our



needs and will care for them.

In June, in the midst of heightened COVID-19 cases, we elected new officers and a new slate of mission grants. Our work continues with God's strength behind us and the calm assurance that Jesus knows what we need. Encourage one another. Don't let the problems of the world distract you from the LWML mission to serve the Lord with gladness.



Donna Payerle, Public Relations Director



Check Out Your Checklist

If you're like Santa and me, this is the time of year for checklists. Santa is famously "making a list, and checking it twice." I find that the only way to be sure that I remember what is supposed to be accomplished in any given day (notice I said "supposed") is to write it down on a list. And so, I propose a short list of items to check off between now and the end of 2020:



- Get your flu shot
- Pray for our leaders (government and church)
- Each time you pray, drop a quarter in your Mite Box
- Start planning how you are going to hold meetings of your group during the next crisis

Wait! Shouldn't that last item be "Continue to hold meetings of your group during this crisis?"

I assume that you have been holding, or trying to hold, meetings and Bible studies on a regular basis while the virus has been among us. Masks and social distancing are in, hugs are out. But there are things to think about if you have opted for virtual meetings.



- † Do you have ZOOM meetings, assuming you have ZOOM access?
- † Can everyone see/hear what is going on?
- † How on earth do you make a motion or take a vote?
- † Check your bylaws.
- † Check out *Robert's Rules, 12th edition* (I know, not another update to Robert!).
- † If necessary, update your bylaws.
- † Before a final vote and approval, send the amendment to the District Structure Committee for review and suggestions if necessary.

There you have it, another check list checked out and checked off!

Blessings to you, your families, and your congregations during this winter season. And now, I'd better get started on my check list!

Beth Christopherson, Structure Committee Chairman

Subscription Reductions

Subscription reductions are due March 1 for *Quarterly* and *ODE*.

If your church or society needs to reduce the number of copies of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* or the *ODE*, now is the time to do it. Quantity reductions are processed once a year and must be received by March 1 to take effect with the summer 2021 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.

Kim Klein, Subscription Manager

Reminder from President Vivian Nelson: Payments for the *ODE* and *Quarterly* are due by January 31 each year. Send with the Mites Remittance Form and mail to: Janet Pauley, Financial Secretary. If payment is not received, only one copy of the *ODE* and *Quarterly* will be mailed effective Summer 2021.

The League Pledge

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all

that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for

Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice 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, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him.

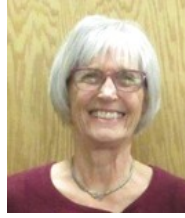
Amen.

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Links ... and I'm Not Talking Golf

Find information about the LWML Ohio District and its zones when you visit www.lwmlohio.org. You will also find quick links to LWML and "timely" subpages. On the home page using the links on the left column will take you directly to LCMS, Ohio District, Lutheran Hour Ministry, CPH, and Lutheran World Relief sites.



The churches of each zone are listed (and linked if they have a website) on the zone page under the tab "Our Churches". As webmaster, I appreciate knowing when church information changes (i.e. website URL or new pastor). It helps me keep the site accurate.

I encourage zone presidents to check zone information and let me know what corrections are needed. On the website www.lwmlohio.org, click Resources, then Request a Website Change, or email bllelle@roadrunner.com. Ask your church to link the LWML Ohio District site on their website. Being able to obtain information online is probably more important than ever during this pandemic, so I hope you link up soon.

Billie Lelle, Webmaster



Memorials July-September 2020

Judy Berwaldt Bertone
Kim Dailey
Nancy Krupp
Sue Usner-Miller
Elfrieda Spencer



I want to age like sea glass.

I want to age like sea glass.
Smoothed by tides,
but not broken.
I want my hard edges to soften.
I want to ride the waves
and go with the flow.
I want to catch a wave
and let it carry me
to where I belong.
I want to be picked up
and held gently by
those who delight in my
well earned patina and
appreciate the changes I went
through to achieve that beauty.
I want to enjoy the journey
and always remember that if
you give the ocean something
breakable it will turn it into
something beautiful.
I want to age like sea glass.

~ Bernadette Noll ~

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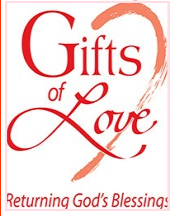


| MITES, HONORS AND MEMORIALS, 2020 - 2022 | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| | July-Sept. 2020 | Biennium Total |
| Mites Received | \$8,061.99 | \$12,262.52 |
| Joyful Response | \$0.00 | \$285.00 |
| Thrivent Choice Dollars | \$59.00 | \$943.00 |
| Honors/Memorial | \$686.80 | \$903.69 |
| Quarterly & ODE | \$402.50 | \$728.00 |
| Stamps | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total Mission Income | \$9,210.29 | \$15,122.21 |
| Total needed to meet the goal: \$184,877.79 | | |
| Monthly amount needed to reach Mission Goal \$10,271 | | |





As you think about leaving an inheritance, what runs through your mind? Is your goal to have family hang on to “your things?” Do you sense a burden of obligation? Or, since we live under grace, can you see inheritance as gifts to family, which you get to give because God first gave to you? Would you like help gaining perspective? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help. Please contact Linda.Gage@lfnd.org, Phone: 800-741-4138 www.lwmlgiftplan.org.



We want AND need you as a volunteer for a successful 2021 convention. If you work 8 hours over the course of the convention, you will receive a generous registration discount. Fill out the “Call for Workers” form today. Send it to Penny Letterman.

The form is available on the three Host District websites (links to the sites are on the bottom of this page.) Don't delay ... WE NEED YOU, WE WANT YOU,





LWML 39th Biennial Convention

June 24-27, 2021
Lexington, Kentucky
Convention News & Notes
Host LWML Districts: Indiana, Michigan, Ohio
Issue 1—October 1, 2020

1st leg of race ... PRAY!

Dear Heavenly Father, We thank You for the many blessings You have given us. Be with us as the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, grows closer. At times when we get worried, even frazzled, please keep us calm and focused on You. Remind us that You are here with us and help us share the good news of salvation with others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

2nd leg of race ... SHIRTS!

Convention Logo Polo Shirt: Do you have your red convention polo shirt? If not, get your shirt now. Wear it to your local, zone, and district LWML events and activities to promote the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington. To order your shirt, go to www.lwmlindiana.org, download the Convention Logo Polo Shirt order form. Mail the completed form with your check to Jo Anne Furniss (her address is on the form).



Madge, did you order your convention shirt yet?



Not yet, have you seen them?

I sure have, they're really sharp. Nadine from Ohio is wearing one.

Wow, I really like it! I'll order mine today!



2021 Convention information, “Call for Workers” form, and shirt order form are on the Indiana, Michigan, or Ohio websites listed here:
Indiana: www.lwmlindiana.org
Michigan: www.lwml.org/michigan-district
Ohio: www.lwmlohio.org



Toledo Zone

... Lillian Keller, Secretary

When the women of the LWML Toledo Zone heard of the August explosion in Beirut, Lebanon, they decided to help. Three Lutheran World Relief (LWR) shipping containers full of items for Syrian refugees were destroyed. The containers had held



47,000 items including quilts, school kits, baby needs kits, personal care/hygiene kits, and fabric kits.



An application for Thrivent Action Team funds was made and a plea went out for items needed for the personal care kits. The Thrivent card and financial gifts helped purchase towels for the kits. Donations of the needed personal care kit items came from the LWML Toledo Zone societies and churches. Several women made quilts. Additional Thrivent funds helped purchase batting for the quilts.

LWML sisters produced 13 quilts, assembled 196 Personal Care/Hygiene kits and four fabric kits. A



Quilts



special thank you to Thrivent Financial for helping to make this service project possible.

The kits and quilts were taken to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pemberville to be loaded on a truck sponsored by Lutheran World Relief (LWR). There was no charge for the transportation to Beirut! Karen Shanahan and her husband, Rex, dropped them off. There was a group of young

men from the Findlay College wrestling team on site to unload the car and load the truck. They were organized and very enthusiastic!

Cleveland South/West Zone

... Julie Gresko, Vice President

We have postponed all of our meetings and hope the new year brings an end to the virus. Our zone isn't letting a COVID-19 pandemic stop us from being Jesus' hands



to those in need. St. James, Cleveland, Ohio, has been collecting soap for a local men's homeless shelter. St. Paul, Westlake, Ohio, is collecting socks and underwear for toddlers through adults to be



distributed by Redeemer Crisis Center.

In November, St. James will collect hats, mittens, and scarves to fill an empty Christmas tree for Luther Memorial School.

In December, diapers will be collected around the tree for the Mothers and Babies Care Cupboard at Redeemer Crisis Center.

In January, soup will be collected for our Souper Bowl celebration on Super Bowl Sunday, The soup will be given to Immanuel Lutheran in Cleveland for distribution to the needy.

Even though we can't meet together in person, LWML groups can still serve the Lord with gladness.

Cleveland South/West Zone

... Donna Payerle

There are some busy sowers, no, I mean women who sew, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Westlake, Ohio. They made blankets for Lutheran World Relief (LWR).



It all started in the June 2018, after a presentation by LWR which included a need for blankets. In attendance were Karen Wade and Nancy Spaudie, who are active St. Paul members and quilters. They said, "we can do



that; we can make blankets."

Since then the group of about 30 ladies meet four times a year to do just that. For three months they sew small square blanket pieces and then gather together to sew a complete blanket. So far, they have made over 100 blankets. LWR sends the blankets to disaster areas and third world countries where they are used for tents, ground cover, and warm bedding.



Cincinnati Zone

... Peggy Kelm, Publicity Chairman

Our 62nd Fall Retreat was held by ZOOM or phone on September 26, 2020. The words of our morning speaker, Jeanne Schimmelmenn, carried through the rest of the day. "joy, encouragement, serving, kindness, forever," sticking in our brains. The theme was "Joy," and how to encourage it during times of stress. Today's COVID-19 pandemic, racial unrest, isolation from family and friends, virtual work and schools, and job loss are all issues certain to create stress!



Jeanne Schimmelmenn, the immediate Past President of LWML Ohio District, talked about several characteristics of Joy: joy vs. happiness, how to increase joy, having a joyful heart, and sharing joy. She included tips to actually increase joy, including talking to God daily, listening to God, singing songs of praise to God. Look for those God-moments when one sees God acting, those ah-ha moments in our lives.

But how can we share joy? Jeanne had concrete things to do for that also: serve others, wear a smile, encourage others, show others who you actually are (that Jesus lives inside your soul). She ended with an anonymous quote, "You may be the only Bible some people ever read; or the only Jesus some people ever see." Do others see Jesus in you?



Women from ten churches of the Cincinnati Zone were able to ZOOM or phone in to this event. We were all in our homes except for the wise women of Messiah Lutheran who joined on their church's big screen. Pastoral Counselor Greene (Trinity Lutheran, and Immanuel Lutheran, Cincinnati) had an open devotions which focused on our current pandemic situation. We read the written greeting from the new LWML Ohio District President, Vivian Nelson, as well as an update on the retreat service project.

All churches were asked to select and complete kits from those offered at the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) website www.lwr.org. These could be school, baby, or personal care kits, or maybe even a handmade quilt. All were to be packed and then delivered to Zion Lutheran. Karen Fischer volunteered to deliver all the boxes to the Dayton, Ohio, location where a semi-truck parked on Friday through Saturday, October 2-3, to pick up donations. A summary of completed kits shows the diligence of zone churches: 43 school kits; 185 personal care kits; 11 sewing kits; and 7 quilts.

Lorain-Medina Zone

... Ethel Schiemann, President

LWML kit coordinator, Ethel, shared this report. St. Paul, Valley City, Ohio, provided supplies for our ladies and our congregation to assemble and complete 96 kits for Lutheran World Relief.



Through a grant from Thrivent Financial, group bake sales monies, and congregation donations we were able to fund our kits. They were quickly assembled and ready for boxing. The boxes are going to St. Jacob Lutheran Church in North Canton, Ohio, on their journey to assist LWR where needed.

Toledo Zone

... Lillian Keller, Secretary

Trinity Lutheran, Toledo, observed LWML



Sunday with a "Jingling Mites" offering at several services during October. Due to COVID-19 concerns, several Purple Buckets were placed on tables at the rear of the sanctuary. The coins and quiet money placed in those Purple Buckets totaled \$494.44. These mites will help fund the mission and ministry of the LWML



What is the ODE?

...Karen Shanahan, ODE Editor

As ODE Editor, it is your voice sharing experiences, ideas, events, and more that I hear. This is an invitation to LWML Ohio District Zone members to submit articles to your Zone president for inclusion in the ODE. We want to hear from all of you! Ohio District Zones:



- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Akron-Youngstown | Central |
| Cincinnati | Cleveland East |
| Cleveland South/West | Defiance |
| Lima-Van Wert | Lorain-Medina |
| Miami Valley | Napoleon |
| Northeast | Toledo |



Central Zone

... Vona Gooding, President

In spite of the restrictions of the COVID-19 the LWML of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Parkersburg, West Virginia, has remained active and faithful in prayer. In January, the idea of a mission oriented yard sale began to take shape. We hoped to have items donated and the funds raised go to help a mission project.



We put this out to the congregation in February and the items began to arrive. We were overflowing with donations so at our March meeting we set a date for May. Then, everything came to a halt; COVID-19 had arrived. No church for two months, but the ladies kept praying and when church services began in June, we held our meeting outside doing all the safe stuff.

By then the church was running over with yard sale items so we decided to set a date for June 25 and 26. The money raised would be donated to local charities. We prayed hard to do everything we could to keep everyone safe.

What a fantastic response. Items were donated, and offered at a donation people felt they could afford. We raised \$3,525 at our yard sale! To God be the glory.

On July 15, the LWML officers presented a check to Jim Sims from Latrobe Street Mission (mission outreach to the area homeless) and a check to Susan Allender from Washington County Harvest of Hope (food bank co-op) for \$1,762.50 each. Both were overwhelmed to be chosen to receive these gifts.

The giving did not stop there. The clothes, shoes, and purses we did not sell went to the homeless shelter. Everything else went to the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. There they restore it, sell it, and use the proceeds to buy building materials to build homes for those in need right here in our community.

We continue to be active with upcoming back-to-school project and our ongoing layette project. Even though times have been uncertain, and fear can overwhelm us, we continue to look to the Lord for ways to serve Him. And we always and in all ways give God all praise and honor and glory. Amen.



Vice President Megan Clark, Jim Sims of Latrobe Street Mission, President Nancy Emerick



Treasurer Jo Lea Frye, Susan Allender of Harvest of Hope, President Nancy Emerick

Toledo Zone

... Karen Shanahan, President

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

LWML Objectives: Mission Education, Mission Inspiration, Mission Service, and Financial Grants for Mission needs

Motto: "Serve the LORD with gladness" (Psalm 100:2).

Colors: Purple and gold



Seal: Designed by Mrs. Quin Dennis of Huron, South Dakota, the emblem was selected at the 1947 Chicago convention.



Logo: Adopted at the 1991 convention in Cleveland, OH



Logo: Adopted at the 2017 convention in Albuquerque, NM. A heart to represent the love and giving nature of the members; a drop to symbolize the blood of Christ and tear of compassion; and a cross above all else to proudly show purpose behind the efforts of the LWML.

Young Woman Representative Pin: Double links represent LWML women of all ages who are joyfully united in spirit and purpose. While each member is different, in Christ all are linked together, complementing one another's gifts, talents, and strengths (adopted June 1997).



Heart 2 Heart Sisters: Oneness in Christ is strengthened through intentionally teaming with our LCMS sisters of varied ethnic, cultural, generational and organization backgrounds (Assembly of Leaders, 2008).



Official Membership Pin: The LWML official membership pin is composed of interlocking elements representing the past, present, and future. The different textures on each of the interlocking elements symbolize the diverse cultures of the women of LWML. The triangle, representing the Triune God above, connects with the circles which stand for the world and eternity. The point where all intersect is marked with the cross, Christ, as the center of our lives (adopted July 2001).





Toledo Zone

... Lillian Keller, Secretary

On a beautiful fall Saturday in September, the women of the LWML Toledo Zone held their in-person Fall Rally at Concordia Lutheran Church, Findlay, Ohio. The theme was "Sharing God's Word" based on Deuteronomy 6:7. Rev. David DePaoli, pastor at Concordia, gave the opening prayer. The Rev. Ryan Kleimola, pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Toledo, Ohio, and newly elected Junior Pastoral Counselor, LWML Ohio District, gave the opening devotion. His devotion was based on Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18. He shared the story of a lighthouse. We are to be like a lighthouse and let our faith in Jesus shine out into the world around us, to guide others to Jesus.



Toledo Zone President, Janice Breitner, introduced Dr. Ben Freudenburg, Director of Concordia Center for the Family at Concordia University, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The Center helps churches train and equip pastors for ministry to the family so the children will be told of God's extravagant love. He told us that the family is the engine in sharing faith to children. We are reminded in the Bible, *You shall teach them diligently to your children* (Deuteronomy 6:7); that religious instruction begins at home—through prayer, a family's church attendance, and reading the Scriptures. The Concordia Center for the Family promotes and



encourages healthy, Christ-centered family relationships through education, giving them tools to teach faith at home in partnership with their local congregation.

Dr. Freudenburg, through the Concordia Center for the Family has led conferences on marriage and family in LCMS congregations, worked with the Ethiopia Evangelical Church, Mekane Yesus, and also in Asia. As a result of these conferences, instructors are trained. They train others in family ministry; families will be strengthened and children will be shown and taught about God's love.

We were honored to have LWML Ohio District President, Vivian Nelson, give the LWML Ohio District Greetings. She encouraged us to pray for each other and stay in touch with our Christian sisters during the COVID-19 pandemic. Elections were held during the business meeting and the Rev. Ryan Kleimola installed the newly elected officers, Karen Shanahan, President, and Lillian Keller, Recording Secretary. Rev. Depaoli has taken on the position as Pastoral Counselor for



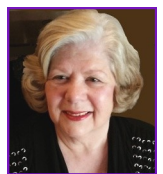
Toledo Zone and led us in the closing prayer. We had an ingathering of mites for mission grants and an overwhelming response of donated items for Hope House, Findlay. These items were delivered by Nancy Kovacs (pictured) and her husband, Dan. The ladies of Concordia provided a delicious lunch. We give thanks to God to be with our LWML sisters, face to face.



Toledo Zone

... Karen Shanahan, Presicent

The Trinity Lutheran Church LWML Society hosted a fall "Painterly Pumpkins Party" (with social distancing and masks) as a fund raiser with proceeds to help defray the cost our LWML Ohio District attendees to the 2021 LWML Convention



in Lexington, Kentucky. We were blessed with \$720 in donations. Our sincere thanks to artist and teacher, Katie Kleimola, (yes, wife of our LWML Ohio District Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Ryan Kleimola). With Katie's great instructions, many talented ladies created their vision of "pumpkins." It was a wonderful evening and a "creative" way to raise funds. Thank you participants, behind the scenes organizers, and Katie.



Hear His Words

... Rev. Mark Moog, LWML 2021
Convention Host Committee Pastoral
Counselor



In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths (2 Timothy 4:1-4).

These devotional thoughts and prayer are adapted from the 2017 LWML Sunday materials written by the Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast, Jr., President of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

On July 7-8, 1942, over 100 women, among them twenty-eight formal delegates, met in Chicago to establish the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Its purpose was to encourage a greater consciousness among women for "missionary education, missionary inspiration, and missionary service." It also decided to gather funds for mission projects above and beyond the budget of the Synod. From this humble beginning and through the use of the now familiar "Mite Box," the League has blessed the mission efforts of congregations, districts, and synod in amazingly powerful ways!

But there is more, as LWML historian Marlys Taege Moburg has captured so well: "...the blessing of the



LWML, now also known as Lutheran Women in Mission, goes far beyond the millions raised for missions. Its benefits can be seen in faith deepened through Bible studies, in confidence built through leadership training, in the befriending of career missionaries, in blankets, quilts, and clothing

gathered for the disadvantaged, in food shared with the hungry and, above all, in the friendships nurtured and the lives changed by sharing the love of Jesus Christ . . . around the world."

A familiar saying is, "Time marches on," and it seems

that as we age it speeds up beyond our control.

The Lutheran confession has always struggled against the intrusion of false teaching. But the Lord has been faithful and has raised up faithful pastors like Timothy, who have preached the pure Gospel of Jesus Christ crucified for our sins and raised for our justification.

And the Lord has gathered faithful men, women, and children who have carried out the work of the Lord with passion and devotion, meeting the challenges and opportunities to reach out to those who need to hear the Gospel.

Marlys Taege Moberg, "History of the LWML," <https://unite-production.s3.amazonaws.com/tenants/lwml/attachments/21814/lutheran-women-mission-history-rev.pdf>, accessed April 3, 2017.

We pray for the women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, that they always be ready to confess in thought, word, and deed, here in our country and throughout the world, Christ's work of redemption for all people, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy. All these things we pray in the name of Christ Jesus, the joy of heaven to earth come down, He who is our life and our hope, our daily bread, our rock and our refuge. Amen!

The Widow's Mite

Jesus looked up and saw some rich people tossing their gifts into the offering box. He also saw a poor widow putting in two pennies (mites). And he said, "I tell you that this poor woman has put in more than all the others. Everyone else gave what they didn't need. But she is very poor and gave everything she had. (Luke 21:1-4). The Mite Box is an extension of the



"widow's mite" and is intended for regular contributions of mite offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS.



Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML programs.

LWML members are encouraged to keep Mite Boxes in a prominent place and contribute to them regularly. Gather Mite Box offerings at meetings with prayer or devotions. As the offerings are received, send them to the district financial secretary and include the mite remittance form. Additional information is available on page 12 of this ODE.



ODE Submissions

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: To direct funds to LWML Ohio District, select:

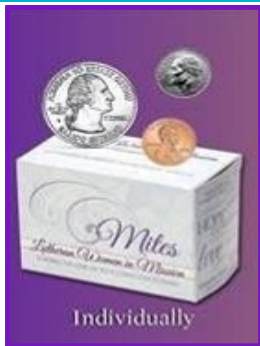
- LWML Ohio District,
- Olmsted Twp, Ohio
- Cuyahoga Co

Joyful Response® to Mites: To donate mites directly from your checking account each month contact **Janet Pauley**, Financial Secretary. She will send you a Joyful Response® form.

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

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

Financial Secretary, Janet Pauley
17719 Kelvinway Dr., Worthington, OH 43085
614-746-9855, jpauley7719@gmail.com



Websites:

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

Quarterly and ODE Subscriptions

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

Subscription reductions due March 1 for Quarterly and ODE. See page 4 for details.

Annual Subscription Costs effective Summer 2020

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|------------------------|
| ODE | All quantities | \$2.50/each |
| Quarterly | 1-9 Copies | \$7.50/each NEW |
| Quarterly | 10+ Copies | \$6.00/each NEW |

Note: Payments for the cost of the ODE and Quarterly are due by January 31st each year. (Refer to bylaws change on Page 6.) Send with the Mites Remittance Form and mail to: Janet Pauley, Financial Secretary.

If payment is not received by January 31, only one ODE and Quarterly will be sent effective with the Summer 2021 editions. Reductions can only be processed once a year – effective with the summer edition for that year. The next reductions take effect with the Summer 2021 editions.

Contact Information

Contributions & Donations for:

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

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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

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