

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Winter 2017
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Ohio District Edition — ODE

3633 Denise Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43614



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DO NOT BE ANXIOUS

A favorite song from the movie *The Lion King* is "Hakuna Matata." That motto means no worries for the rest of your days. It offers a problem-free philosophy. Wouldn't that be a wonderful promise for life – no worries, no problems.

God does tell us not to worry or be anxious about anything in our lives. In fact, the Bible has several specific verses dedicated to the command of not to worry as well as other verses directing us not to be anxious. God certainly wants us to turn our burdens, stresses, and concerns over to Him.

I freely admit that I am fairly dependable about turning over my worries to God. However, I am also just as efficient in taking those worries back again!

This is a true event that happened to me last month. I went to the dentist for a routine cleaning. Afterward the dentist said we needed to have a consultation about the next step in my dental care which involves extensive and expensive dental work. I left the office, not only worried about the upcoming procedures, but more stressful was the hundreds if not thousands of dollars those procedures would cost.

I knew I needed to take time to talk with God. My favorite place to have my conversations with God has always been in the woods. I love to walk in solitude, listening to the leaves rustle, enjoying the fresh air, and spotting deer. As I began my walk, I started to talk to God about my worries and financial concerns. I spoke earnestly from my heart, and then I turned the problem over to Him. I was confident that everything was in God's Hands.

However, as I continued my walk, I started to take those worries back. I began thinking that it certainly would be helpful if I could win the lottery. I imagined all the problems I could solve just with that windfall. As I walked, I thought about how everything would be in MY control. I had found the solution to a "Hakuna Matata" life.

As I rounded the last turn on the trail, I stopped short. In front of me was a snake, wiggling across the path. I had never seen a snake in all the hundreds of times I had walked through the woods. My first reaction was to be startled by the little fellow. My second was to be ashamed. That snake reminded me of that first temptation into sin. I too had fallen into the temptation that I could be the master of my worries. I had handed over my concerns to God, and within minutes, convinced myself I could solve my problems. I had quickly forgotten that God has told me that HE would provide for all my needs, not the lottery!

As I finished my walk and drove home, I remembered a favorite Bible verse: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God* (Philippians 4:6).

While we are never promised a problem-free life, we are promised a life guided and directed by our living, loving Lord. God knows exactly what we need, when we need it. He will provide for us, one day at a time. As we rely more on God and less on ourselves, we become convinced that we do not have to worry. My favorite quote from Martin Luther is; "Pray and let God worry." God is the only solution to a worry-free life!

As we begin the holiday season, I count each and every one of you a blessing from God as together we *serve the Lord with gladness*.

Jeanne Schimmelmman, President



Focusing In



The LWML National Primary Focus for the 2017-2019 biennium is an interconnected three part emphasis: Nurturing Faith in Christ, Making Our Faith Meaningful, and Sharing Encouragement. Paul's Letter to the Philippians, in chapter 2:1-18, takes up a similar three fold focus borne out from Jesus' example of humility.

Nurturing Faith in Christ occurs by being in the Word; meaning that you are to *hold fast to the word of life* (Phil. 2:16, ESV) found in Holy Scripture. In so doing, you will better understand and appreciate God in Christ "*taking the form of a servant*" and *being born in the likeness of men... [humbling] himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross*" (Phil. 2:7-8, ESV). It is only through this sacrificial death in your place that brings you, by faith, forgiveness, life and salvation.

This Good News and servant character of Jesus then, through baptism, enables you to *have this mind [of Christ] among yourselves* (Phil 2:5, ESV). You therefore, by the power of the Holy Spirit, are guided and enabled to *do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others as more significant than yourselves* (Phil. 2:3, ESV). As a result *you look not only to [your] own interests, but also to the interests of others* (Phil. 2:3-4, ESV), **Making Your Faith Meaningful.**

Not only does faith reveal itself through actions because of the power and work of the Word, but also manifests itself by **Sharing Encouragement.** Being of the same mind as Christ brings forth words of comfort and love, affection and sympathy. This is the "*encouragement in Christ*" (Phil. 2:1, ESV) and a witness to others of the hope that is in you.

Rev. Daniel Herb, Jr. Pastoral Counselor



The Beauty Within

The beauty we have
Is found within
And is more than a pretty face
It's the beauty of God
And is only found
In His love and transforming grace

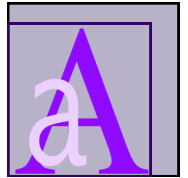
The world only looks
At the outward shell
And not on what's there inside,
But God will reveal
The beauty within
As the beauty of Jesus Christ

© By M.S.Lowndes

Julie Gresko, Human Care Committee

Bylaws!

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good (Genesis 1:31a).



If you are considering updating your zone bylaws you probably want to take the time to make them look good. The LWML has resources on their web page that will help. One interesting resource is the LWML Style Guide. Sometimes it is hard to remember when or what to capitalize.

Capitalize district, zone, society, committee, etc. only when part of a proper name; always capitalize LWML, committee and department names. An example: The LWML Ohio District hosted the event. Sally attended the district convention.

Capitalize bylaws when referring to official name: the Bylaws of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

Use lowercase when using general terms: Our bylaws need to be revised. Some technical terms to know: cellphone, Smartphone, online, username, all written as one word. So are website, and webmaster, although World Wide Web is capitalized and written as individual words.

Deborah Wesche, Structure Committee



Downsizing!

"For Sale" sign has been removed. Boxes are everywhere. Utilities are notified. "Last Hurrah Party" is scheduled. Guess what's going on in the household.

Easy answer: Moving. Difficult answer: Downsizing!

How could Jesus expect his disciples to not take gold, silver, copper, a bag for the journey, extra clothes or sandals when they were sent out to preach the message? (Matthew 10:9-10). Was this the biblical version of downsizing? Doesn't everyone need two sets of steak knives or enough jigsaw puzzles to get one way past their 100th birthday, or multiple spools of white thread just in case....



Do you keep things because you want them or because you need them? If Jesus

told you to leave "them" for His sake, could you or would you? Is your Christian life filled with "stuff" to remind you that you are a Christian or is your Christian life filled with service and the Word? Jesus' disciples took nothing on their journey because they had everything through Jesus. Certainly, it is nice to have an extra pair of comfortable shoes and a ten dollar bill in our pocket for our physical journey, but it's even nicer to know that for our spiritual journey we carry everything in faith of our risen Lord.

Therefore, downsize faithfully and perhaps have a fantastic garage sale along the way.

Diana Schnack, Christian Life

LWML Ohio District Mission Grants 2016-2018				
#1	Military Veterans & Family Member Counseling, Care Programs & Services	Paid in FULL	\$10,000	**
#2	Support for Seminarians	Paid \$7500	\$15,000	
#3	Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-Op	Paid in FULL	\$10,000	**
#4	Support for Church Work Full Time Students	Paid in FULL	\$15,000	**
#5	Veterans of the Cross	Paid in FULL	\$2,500	**
#6	Project Hope for the Homeless	Paid in FULL	\$10,000	**
#7	Ohio Branch Orphan Grain Train	Paid \$5000	\$7,500	
#8	Sharing the Love of Christ with Detained Immigrants		\$7,500	
#9	The Bridge Ministry	Paid in FULL	\$10,000	**
#10	Comfort Dog Ministry at Atonement Lutheran "Rosie"	Paid \$3110	\$5,000	
	TOTAL GRANTS GOAL		\$92,500	
	BALANCE REMAINING TO BE PAID		\$19,390	
	6 Fully Funded			
**	Paid in FULL	Updated 10-10-2017		

Karyl VanMeurs-Juergens, Gospel Outreach

Leaders Needed



In seeking nominees for the ballot for our June convention, one thing has become evident to me: many of our leaders are very dedicated to LWML and are not willing to let it wither by allowing an office to go unfilled. But too often we serve longer than we should. (I am as guilty as others in this regard.) We are depriving someone else of the opportunity to learn to serve in a particular office. As we seek candidates for district offices, the committee looks for people who have had zone experience. In zones where the same people have served for long periods of time, there really is hardly anyone to ask.

When looking for a new officer, have you been willing to say, "I'll help you through the first year. I'll show you how to do it and answer questions anytime you have them." This might be what your young person needs to hear in order to take the opportunity to serve and to grow. You might also tell them about the support you have enjoyed from others as you have done the job.

Some encouragement from scripture would be *I can do everything through him who gives me strength* (Phil. 4:13), and *May the God of peace equip you with everything good for doing his will* (Hebrews 13:20-21). Presently, we are seeking candidates for:

- ♥ Recording Secretary
- ♥ Vice President of Christian Life
- ♥ Nominating Committee members

We ask for your prayers. If you would like to serve or would like to suggest someone I should call, please contact me: 419-260-7769 vnelson4805@gmail.com

Vivian Nelson, Nominating Committee

Stewardship...

is the theme of services in many churches throughout Ohio in October. The congregation hears messages about using our hands, feet, mouth, and resources to spread the news of Jesus to the world. The LWML pledge fits right into that message now and throughout the year. Visit The LWML website, www.lwml.org and the LWML Ohio District website, www.lwmlohio.org for many great links, tools, and resources for service and mission. Invite a member of your congregation who hasn't been to an event before and take the time to explain what LWML is all about to them. Consider a skit to introduce LWML to your congregation preceding or following a worship service.



Ruth Mowery, Public Relations



Open Invitation

It is a joy to be able to update our district website <https://www.lwmlohio.org/> with information and pictures from district officers, committee chairmen and zone representatives. I hope you are using the site to learn more about our zone and district activities. The ODE is archived, so past issues are available. Also there are relevant links to other sites.

Visit the site! Detailed submissions or corrections may be sent to bllelle@roadrunner.com. Always include LWML in the subject line or use the website link "resources>contact us"). Together, we make our site relevant and up to date.

Billie Lelle, Webmaster



In the CPH book Armed and Dangerous the question is asked, 'How Big Is Your God?' The Psalmist sometimes uses words like these,

urging God's people to praise Him: O magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together (Psalm 34:3).

In a strict sense, we cannot magnify God. We cannot make Him any larger or any more gracious or powerful. He already *fills everything that exists* (Jeremiah 23:24). But as we praise Him, our picture of His goodness and glory is magnified. Praise the Lord for His goodness.

Judy Sonnenberg, Financial Secretary

We Warmly invite you to attend the

27th Biennial LWML Ohio District Convention!

When: June 22-24, 2018

Where:

Embassy Suites Hotel
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin, OH 43017
614-790-9000



Convention Theme:

Walk in the Light

Inspired by 1 John 1:7

"But If we walk in the light, as He is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin."

Be a Delegate

The Central Zone ladies look forward to hosting the LWML Ohio District Convention
at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin Ohio (Exit 17A Dublin/161 exit)

Approximately 375 Sisters in Christ are expected from LWML societies in Ohio, northern Kentucky and western West Virginia. This convention will be the culmination of a year and half of planning and walking in God's Light together. Remember to start planning your zone banner. Your Zone President will be providing parameters for the banners soon. Each LWML society can send two delegates and designate two alternates. These women are the ones who will vote for all necessary convention business, including bylaws amendments, mission grants, and election of officers.

Be a delegate or an alternate from your church.

Get Excited! Be Included! See YOU There!

Nelda McCoy, Host Committee



Subscription Reductions

Due for Quarterly and ODE

Does your society or church need to reduce the number of copies of the **Lutheran Woman's Quarterly** or the **ODE**? Quantity reductions processed once a year must be received by **March 1** to take effect with the Summer 2018 edition.

Contact Kim Klein at kimkleinLWML@neo.rr.com or 330-839-8112 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 anyone, not just print subscribers. PDFs can be forwarded by email or printed in your church office. **Email Kim Klein at kimkleinLWML@neo.rr.com** to request your name or to have your church added to the email distribution list.

Kim Klein, Subscription Manager



2016-2018 Mission Goal - \$205,000.00

	September 2017	Biennium Total
Mites Received	\$5,325.77	\$111,892.12
Stamps for Missions	120.00	3,570.26
Thrivent Choice Dollars	246.00	4,493.00
Quarterlies & ODEs	57.50	8,811.05
Honors/Memorials	125.00	3,870.51
Total Mission Income	\$5,874.27	\$132,636.94

Still needed to reach the Mission Goal: \$72,363.06,
which is \$12,060.51 per month for six months

Honors - Memorials July - September 2017

IN MEMORY OF:

Ellie Buzam

Jackie Rausch

IN HONOR OF:

Doris Weaver

Pastor Ryan Kleimola

Elfrieda Spencer

175th Anniversary Celebration

St. John's Lutheran Church in Mt. Hope, Ohio, home church of Ohio District Treasurer, Ruth Nussbaum, held a Festival of Celebration on September 24 to commemorate the 175th anniversary.

The day included morning worship followed by children's activities and a catered lunch. This was followed with a special 2:00 p.m. service where Pastor Terry Cripe, Ohio District LCMS President, preached. He stated that they were the oldest LCMS in the Ohio District and referred to various historical events and how the country had grown and changed during that time.

The preaching and teaching of the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ since 1842 was celebrated with President Cripe. Those attending received various mementos: crosses, water bottles, and Mustard Seeds from the LWML. Pictured are: Doreen Inglis, Ruth Nussbaum, Susan Weiss



Event Calendar

Date	Zone - Event	Location
Monthly 3rd Tues	Toledo MOST Ministry Volunteer Day	Ann Arbor, MI MOST Ministries
Nov 4	Lorain-Medina Zone Meeting	Shepherd of the Ridge LC N. Ridgeville, OH
Dec 2	Cincinnati Liturgy as an Art Form	Prince of Peace LC Cincinnati
2018		
Jan 8	Zion Edgerton 1st Meeting	St John LC Sherwood, OH
Jan 20	Cincinnati Executive Board Mtg	St Paul LC Cincinnati
Mar 3	Toledo Zone Retreat	Ohio Living Swan Creek Toledo, OH
Mar 17	Cincinnati Leadership Event	TBA
Apr 29	Cincinnati Spring Rally	Prince of Peace LC Cincinnati
Jun 22-24	2018 Ohio District Convention	Embassy Suites Dublin, OH



Lima-Van Wert Zone

Beth King, Lima-Van Wert Zone

The Lima-Van Wert Zone held their fall rally on September 23. Pastors Michael Phillips and Jeff Patterson led the divine worship service celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the 75th birthday of the LWML. There was a display of items from previous conventions including tote bags, photos, lapel pins, and devotional booklets. Dessert for the luncheon was a cake decorated with the new LWML logo and Luther's seal.



Photo from the 1958 Columbus Convention featuring zone members



Napoleon & Defiance Zones

Debbie Wesche, Napoleon and Defiance

Napoleon and Defiance Zones held their annual fall retreat on September 16. The theme for the day was based on (Ephesians 2:10) "We are God's Handiwork".

Diana Schnack, LWML Ohio District Vice President of Christian Life, was the presenter. Through bible study, skits, and stories she encouraged attendees to work together to share the gospel of Jesus Christ not just to unbelievers but also with each other. Working together makes it easier to do God's work, gives us hope and encouragement which equips us to better serve our Lord.

Items for personal care kits and baby/school kits were gathered and given to Napoleon Health Resources and Defiance Hospice. An offering was also taken for Anna, Toledo's Comfort Dog Ministry.

Pictured is Diana in a skit sharing the importance of watering and nurturing God's garden and of weeds that crop up and want to stop us.





Trinity Toledo LWML Celebrates 75th Anniversary

Lillian Keller, Toledo Zone

To commemorate both the 75th Anniversary of Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) and the LWML Certificate of Membership to the Ladies Society of Trinity Congregation on November 5, 1942, Trinity's LWML celebrated with a Birthday Luncheon on LWML Sunday, October 1. Forty-five women and five youth enjoyed the program that included a magician, singing and delicious food. Most wore purple and bling, a few wore hats.

A PowerPoint presentation took our ladies to the beginning of church women's groups doing service for seminarians and in their communities and how the LWML



became an organization. Two of Trinity's women attended the 1953 International LWML (ILWML) Convention in Portland, Oregon.

An emphasis was made on the 1991 ILWML Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, when the Ohio District was host. One of Trinity's members even wore the purple dress she made to wear while she served as an usher at the convention. The 2010 LWML Ohio District Convention, which the Toledo Zone hosted, and the 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017 national conventions were also highlighted in the presentation. An explanation of the new LWML logo was given.

Each lady received a new Mite Box, LWML Mission Grant Prayer Card and Mustard Seed. The youth received a children's Mite Box. The purpose of the Mite Box was explained and the women new to LWML commented that they learned a lot. A generous mites collection was received.



The ingathering, was a spice and condiment shower for the Food Co-op at Concordia Theological Seminary. Items were received from members of the congregation and those attending the event. Thanks to **Thrivent Financial Action Team** money that helped fund the luncheon and purchase items for the Food Co-op.

Cincinnati Zone Fall Retreat

Peggy Kelm, Cincinnati Zone



"Luther, The Bible and Reformation"

Fall Retreat with Dr. Phillip Penhallegon

The 59th annual Fall Retreat was a great experience. Dr. Phillip Penhallegon (that name has Cornish roots!) was engaging and honest with the details we know about Martin Luther's early life. We don't know a lot of facts, but we do know who was influencing him in the various places he resided.

The sessions were intriguing and so enjoyable. The servant event, packing snack bags for the residents of the Ronald McDonald House, went quickly. Ninety gallon-sized zip-lock bags were filled with snacks for a family to tote for a day in the hospital.

The second servant project was trimming postage



stamps, a project bringing in over \$3,000 to mites.

The location at the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford was ideal with forty attendees, including four pastors.

The opening devotion was led by Cincinnati Zone Counselor Pastor Stuckwisch (Messiah Lutheran). His guitar aided our singing and was perfect for the occasion. We enjoyed lunch and a funny skit before the final session with Dr. Penhallegon.

The purpose of the Retreat is to give us time to reflect on God's purpose for us and our personal faith. Thank you Chairman, Lisa Rhonemus (St. Mark's Lutheran), Assistant Chairman, Karen Fischer (Zion Lutheran) and the committee of helpers.



ODE Submission

Deadlines for article submissions:

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



Send news, pictures and articles to **Karen Shanahan**

Mighty Mites

Directing Thrivent Choice Dollars to Mites: Direct to LWML Ohio District by selecting Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Mentor, Ohio (not Toledo).

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.

Website Calendar Items, Pictures, etc.

Billie Lelle, Webmaster

bllele@roadrunner.com

Websites:

www.lwmlohio.org District
www.lwml.org National
www.robertsrules.org Roberts Rules

Contact Information

Contributions (Mites, Memorials, Honors)

Joyful Response® to Mites

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Quarterly & ODE Subscription Changes

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Helen Schwartz

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Decatur, IN 46733

Quarterly and ODE Subscriptions



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

DEADLINE FOR REDUCTION IS MARCH 1, 2018

SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 5

Annual Subscription Costs

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

Donations toward the cost of the *Quarterly* and *ODE* should be included with your Mites Remittance Form and mailed to **Judy Sonnenberg**, Financial Secretary



What is the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle?

It is a group of women (and men) who have included LWML in their estate and/or gift plans. A gift plan could be a bequest, IRA designation, charitable trust, gift annuity or other instrument that will eventually terminate with a gift for LWML. Those who have already completed plans through an LWML Gift Planning Counselor will automatically be included as members in the Legacy Circle.

They are connecting with others who have responded with thanksgiving to God for His bountiful blessings throughout their lifetimes.

What is the Legacy Circle purpose? To give glory to God for those donors who are giving witness to the value of LWML in their lives and for their vision inspired by the Holy Spirit to build LWML ministries for generations to come.

What are the benefits of being a Legacy Circle donor?

First, and above all, are the spiritual blessings. As faithful stewards, these donors are equipping future generations to serve our Lord through LWML. They are connecting with others who have responded with thanksgiving to God for His bountiful blessings throughout their lifetimes.

Legacy Circle members will be invited to a lunch/brunch with a featured speaker at the 2019 LWML Convention. Eventually, similar events will be held regionally throughout the United States to reach more Legacy Circle stewards. Each member will receive a certificate of appreciation and a periodic Legacy Circle newsletter highlighting donor stories and articles of special interest.

How can I participate in the Legacy Circle? If you have named LWML in your estate or gift plan or for more information, please e-mail Pat Bilow at pat-bilow.lwml@gmail.com, or call 800-741-4138, ext. 2.