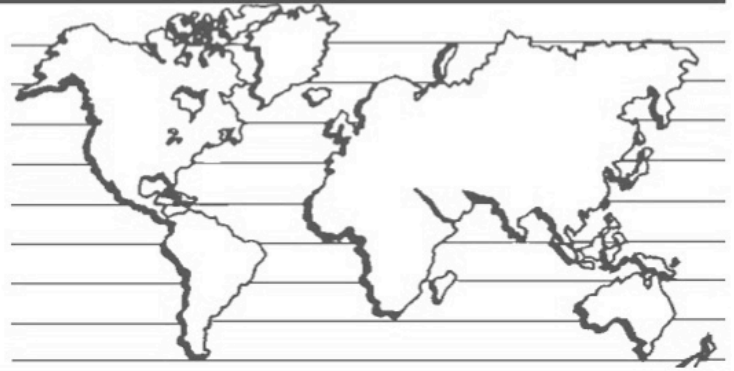


The Messenger

News for Women in Mission



January/February/March 2011

"Serve the Lord with gladness." Psalm 100:2

The mission of the North Dakota LWML is to equip and encourage all women to share the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ.

Planning to make the trip to Peoria? Make your
travel plans and hotel reservations SOON!

national LWML Convention: June 23-26, 2011

"They realized that they had been with Jesus ... 'For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.' - Acts 4:13b and 20 (NKJV)

CONVENTION INFORMATION

Registration forms are available in the Winter 2010 Edition of the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly* and on the national LWML website. Registration officially opens on March 1, 2011. Note that there will be a ND Caucus and photo on Thursday evening of the convention.

TRAVEL:

We will be joining with MN north and traveling with them on the bus to Peoria. The cost for traveling by bus will be \$90.00. This is the cost that the District will pay those delegates who chose not to travel by bus to Peoria as well as the YWR's and the two that the BOD decided to pay for. **Please let President Sue know if you will be traveling by bus.** You also need to let Sue know about your room. She can assist you with those reservations as well.

LODGING:

To ensure availability at one of the convention hotels, reservations **must be received by May 20, 2011.** ++We received information that we will be given **preferred and early housing registration** for using the charter bus as daily shuttles. We can reserve our block of rooms prior to the opening of the housing bureau on March 1st. The Peoria Convention Manager will begin accepting our room block reservations beginning February 6th. The CM **must receive it before Feb. 15th** if sent in by mail. Rooms are available on a first come, first serve basis.
++**Contact President Sue right away if you wish to be involved in preferred housing!**



We are excited to announce the selection of our district's two Young Women

Representatives to the Peoria Convention: Marie Johnson and Olivia Tyrell. Kira Hartman-Judson and Stacey Simonson will attend as alternate young women representatives, too.

Your Gifts from the Heart will be given to agencies in the Peoria area and Orphan Grain Train. Convention participants may bring these items in unlimited quantities. Please bring your gifts with you when you register at the civic center and place them in the receptacles provided. **NO MONEY WILL BE ACCEPTED** for Gifts from the Heart at the convention. (If Spanish literature is included, please label "Spanish" on the bag.)

- **Quilts** – any size for Orphan Grain Train (pack in heavy duty plastic bag)
- **New Bath Towel/Hand Towel/Washcloth** (pack in a clear plastic zip lock bag)
1 Bath Towel; 1 Hand Towel; 1 Washcloth;
1 Christian Tract or Bible Verse (inside the bag)
- **Men's, Women's, and Children's Underwear in the Original Packaging** (label correctly) **1 Christian Tract or Bible Verse** (securely taped onto package)
- **New Children's Picture Bibles (English) or Arch Books**
- **Kits – Men, Women or Children** (mark which one) (all items are to be NEW and regular size ... not travel size); (pack in a clear plastic zip lock bag)

+CHECK District or national WEBSITE FOR ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN EACH KIT

++Even if you cannot attend convention this time, you can send a care package along with someone who is attending.

President's Thoughts:

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come" 2 Corinthians 5:17

We are beginning a New Year in our Lord. We talk about making resolutions for the new year and starting new things and leaving the old behind. Most of the resolutions we make are soon broken or forgotten.

We are reminded of our baptism where we become a child of God by the washing away of our old selves. We are made new in Christ. Our old self has been washed away.

The white of the snow reminds us that we are washed clean by the blood of Jesus as he paid the price for our sins. We live a new life in him and know that we are forgiven of our sins and that we will live with him forever. In this new year may we remember that we are a new creation in Christ and the old has completely been taken away. Remember to share this news with all that you meet in the coming year.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

John 13:34

Serving with gladness, Sue Corwin



DISTRICT DATES!!

+Next District BOD Meeting is March 11-12, 2011.

+Next newsletter deadline is March 20, 2011.

+YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT is March 18-19, 2011 in Bismarck, with the theme "Serve Wholeheartedly as if You Were Serving the Lord". See the district website for more info.

+ZONE SPRING 2011 RALLIES

Central: May 7th – Bethlehem, Forbes

Eastern: April 9th – Grace, Fargo

Northeast: April 30th – Immanuel, Grand Forks

Northwest: April 9th – Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch, Minot

Southeast: April 9th – Holy Cross, Lidgerwood

Southwest: April 2nd – Zion, Bismarck

+District Women's Retreat in Carrington :

September 16-18, 2011

Lutheran Women's Missionary League is now on FACEBOOK

By becoming a fan of the LWML page, you will receive:

Daily mite reminders; Bible study discussion topics; Current LWML news; And much more!

Plus, you can have Christian fellowship with over 1,000 other Lutherans.

Click the "Like" button at the top of our page to become a fan!

www.facebook.com/TheLWML

NOTE THE DATE CHANGE:

ND District LWML Convention dates are now:

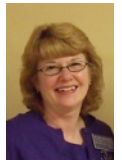
June 24-26, 2012

(Sunday evening through Tuesday morning)

The primary reason for this change is to reduce the hotel room cost at the CanadInn in Grand Forks. MARK DOWN THESE NEW DATES!

HUMAN CARE - VP Valerie Biberdorf

As Vice President of Human Care in the North Dakota District LWML, my main duty is to organize Gifts from the Heart ingatherings at retreats and conventions in the District. Along with that is promoting Gifts from the Heart ingatherings among all zones and units in North Dakota. It is up to all of us to carry out our Lord's desire that we show love and caring for others.



Prayer is extremely important, of course, but helping with the physical needs of others should not be ignored. James 2:17 says "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

The holiday season is always a time when helping people in need is particularly emphasized. Donations to food pantries and charitable organizations such as the Salvation Army is usually up during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season. These organizations and others can then put together food baskets, gifts of clothing and toys so families can have a joy-filled Christmas. This is a wonderful thing. But what happens in January? Do we tend to let up in our caring as we approach spring and summer and look toward warmer weather? Paul said in 2 Thessalonians 3:13: "As for you, do not grow weary in doing good."

Remember prayer is important. Also important is a hug, a listening ear, or an encouraging word. Send a neighbor or lonely shut-in a Valentine, Easter, or "thinking of you" card. Offer a ride to church or to the grocery store. Show the heart of Jesus to others through your acts of caring and kindness.

See earlier article about Gifts From the Heart for the national LWML Convention ingathering in Peoria. Please consider first bringing items and attending the convention yourself. If that is not possible, send items with someone who will be attending. This year there is no limit to the number of items that can be brought to the convention. Consider gathering items, sending some to Peoria and sharing some with agencies in your town or area that could use them. Get your congregation involved along with your unit.

"And they realized they had been with Jesus. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard". Acts 4:13b & 20

The Messenger is the official publication of the North Dakota District of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, and is usually published four times yearly. Editor: Mrs. Louise M. Tegtmeyer, 16250 - 14th St SE, Grandin, ND 58038-9720. 701-484-9369 [h]; 701-371-2667 [c]. louise@ourfarmstead.com. Webmaster: Mrs. Marie L. Johnson, cmjohnson2007@gmail.com. Pres. Sue Corwin's contact info: scorwin@csicable.net; 701-252-5635 [h]. Send articles for upcoming issues to the Editor.

Counselor's Corner

Maybe you've heard many people greet each other over the past couple of months with quite a shiver in their voices. "Brrrr! Its cold out there!!" Maybe we feel at this time like God could have left out one little part of His promise He gave to Noah in Genesis 8:22 → *As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, **cold** and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.* Well, it's here and maybe you feel like the Psalmist when he cried out in Psalm 147:17 → *Who can withstand His icy blast?* Or maybe you feel like Job when his friend told him in Job 37:9-10 → *The tempest comes out from its chamber, the cold from the driving winds. The breath of God produces ice, and the broad waters become frozen.*



Well . . . after all . . . we do live in North Dakota. What else should we expect out of December and January? Unfortunately I don't share Pastor Jenks' passionate love for snow because it usually comes with the C-O-L-D. Many people have told me over the years: *North Dakota has two seasons—winter and July.* I kind of think it's *winter and road construction!* But maybe this cold weather can also teach us something about our Christian lives, even though it's hard to imagine.

When Jesus spoke to the church in Laodicea in Revelation 3:15-16, He used the concept of cold to reveal something about their spiritual lives. He said, *"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot or cold—I am about to spit you out of My mouth."*

Jesus was rebuking their hypocritical faith in these verses. He wished they were hot—that they were totally committed to Himself or as one might say, they were "on fire" for the Lord. We see this symbolism being used on the *Day of Pentecost* when the believers received the Holy Spirit and *saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.* (cf. Acts 2:3) Paul even told the Christians in Thessalonica: *Do not put out the Spirit's fire.* (cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:19) God wants us to be totally committed to Him in our words, actions and thoughts in every vocation of life!

Jesus says that if they were not totally committed to Him then they should be *cold*—be honest in their rejection of His will and plan for their lives as opposed to wavering in their hypocrisy by claiming to be Christians but really living in unbelief. Apparently some Christians in the church at Laodicea were somehow confessing Jesus as Lord while not really believing in their hearts what they were saying or doing for Him. Being in such a "lukewarm" state of hypocrisy leads a person to hell.

Certainly Jesus wants all people to be committed totally to Himself and experience eternal life! He wants us to be "hot" spiritually!! A person should

know where they stand in their relationship to Jesus and take responsibility for their position. So Jesus said in Matthew 12:30 → *He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.*

Cold is also used in the Scriptures to describe the last days—not in terms of temperature but in terms of attitudes of the heart. In Matthew 24 Jesus was teaching His disciples about the signs of the end of the age. In verse 12 He made this statement: *Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold.* Jesus was pointing to how people's hearts would not reach out with acts of love, kindness, sympathy, concern, etc. Maybe there are many times when you've felt a "coldness" on the part of some people in their dealings with others. Maybe you've experienced people dealing with others on the basis of grudges and resentments instead of the forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Maybe you've met people who used other people instead of loving them. Maybe you've been one of these people at times.

Fortunately Jesus came to deal with all our struggles in sin—our unloving hearts; acting hypocritically; holding grudges; using people for selfish ends; greed; idolatry—all sin! 1 Peter 3:18 says: *Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.* Notice *once for all*—for all people, for all sin, for all time!! God wraps us with the warmth of His love, forgiveness and grace in our baptisms as we are renewed day by day through His Word and Sacraments.

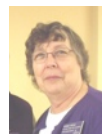
So the next time you find yourself shivering in the 40 below zero cold, maybe it will remind you of your spiritual life and how the warmth of the grace and forgiveness of God in Jesus Christ and the Spirit's fire gives you the commitment to serve the Lord with gladness that day! After all, the LWML strives to wrap people all over the world with the warmth of God's love and forgiveness so that, even though their *sins are like scarlet, they shall be as **white as snow.*** (cf. Isaiah 1:18)

— Pastor Dave Suelzle, Jr. Counselor

Parliamentarian - Bonnie Krenz

When I was asked to write an article for the *Messenger* about the Parliamentarian, I thought everyone knows why a parliamentarian is needed – Parliamentarian as defined by National LWML: The purpose of the parliamentarian is to serve as adviser on parliamentary procedure to the president, officers and members upon request. I would like to write about why I serve and ask each of you to find a special way to serve God through LWML whether it be on the unit, zone, district or national level. I have always been a person who lives by a schedule and likes thing organized. When asked to serve on the

District Bylaw Committee, I felt God was saying "use those talents I gave". I was able to use those God given talents again when asked to serve as the District Parliamentarian. So I ask you to look at your talents and put them to work for God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS from the DISTRICT

++Dottie Sincebaugh has accepted the role of Gift Planning Advocate for the LWML North Dakota District as we step into the next phase of our Gifts of Love planned giving initiative. The purpose of the volunteer position is to help spread the planned giving "word" to more women in our various districts. Your district is one of five that has been identified as a leader based on past response. The others are Southern Illinois, Minnesota South, Pacific Southwest and Michigan LWML Districts.



Well qualified, Dottie is one of six women who received initial training offered by LCMS Foundation in St. Louis in January.

++Our District's own Kay Kreklau (Drayton) is running for the national LWML presidency this summer. Also, Pastor Timothy Jenks (Bismarck) will be running as Pastoral Counselor for our national organization. *Please pray*, as God's will is done.

++2011 *Fall Rally Theme* is "Delighted to Share", based on 1 Thessalonians 2:8.

++District Convention Co-Chairmen for 2012 have been selected: Lynn Drees & Gloria Bethke. District Young Women's Committee has added Ashley Ferguson. All three ladies are from Grand Forks.

++Please send your **Mites**, *Quarterly* payments (**remember the subscription rate is now \$5.00 per year for over 10 copies per address, \$6.50 per year for less than 10 per address**), and newsletter quantity changes to our Financial Secretary, **Sharon Kroeplin**. Address and Officer changes should be sent to

Communications Sub-committee member, **Debbie Larson**. Addresses are on the district website: **www.ndlwml.org**. Thank you.

++Please send all pictures of women in mission and human care projects, ingatherings, servant events, etc. to rhoge@cableone.net or Rhonda Hoge, 1948 Rose Creek Dr, Fargo 58104 **by March 1**. We are putting together a power point presentation entitled "The Face of ND LWML—Lutheran Women in Mission." Please label who/what/where is happening in the photo. Thank you! (See next article as an example.)

LWML helps CVIC


The Community Violence and Intervention Center in Grand Forks ND has seen an increase of 106% in the number of people staying at the Light of Hope Shelter these past two years. This shelter is provided for women and their children who need to escape an abusive situation. Often these women and children come without being able to pack any personal items. Many organizations in GF have held 'pajama benefits' for the CVIC. Pictured are women from Redeemer LWML with pajamas purchased by the group for CVIC.

Back Row (L-R):

Leola
Gonitzke,
Mickey
Juntunen,
Eunice
Christensen,
Ida Heuchert,
Denise
Bergeron.
Front Row (L-R):
Gladys
Sommerfeld,
Linda
Schilieman,
Janice
Sowokinos



ND District LWML Mission Grants 2010 – 2012

Mission Grant		Amount Budgeted	Amount Paid	Balance as of 2-1-11
Orphan Grain Train – ND Division		\$7,500	\$7,500	\$0
ND Full-time Church Workers' Scholarships		\$35,000	\$14,000	\$21,000
Everyone's Child – Bibles for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Pregnancy Help Services – First Choice Clinic		\$5,000		\$5,000
Food Bank at Concordia Theological Seminary, St. Louis		\$4,000		\$4,000
Martin Luther School Tuition Assistance		\$5,000		\$5,000
ND Mission Starts (*Partial Funding)		\$8,500		\$8,500
Mission Grants – Total Goal		\$67,000	\$23,500	\$43,500

The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.