The 2017 LWML National Convention will be held in Albuquerque, NM on June 22-25, 2017. The theme is “Jesus Christ Above All” based on Philippians 2:9. At their fall rallies last October zones chose the following delegates: Central – Mary Harvala, Carrington; Eastern – Corrine Reber, West Fargo; Northeast – Donna Kroeplin, Devils Lake; Northwest – Laurie Rubbert, Upham; Southeast – Joan Beyer, Wahpeton; Southwest – Judy Luebke, Bismarck. At the LWML ND Board of Directors meeting last November two young women were chosen to represent our district in Albuquerque as our Young Woman Representatives. They are: Michaelle Peterson, Ellendale and Alissa Arndt, Fargo. Also attending will be our junior pastoral counselor Rev. Jacob Swenson, Hillsboro, along with District President Valerie Biberdorf. Please pray for these people as they attend the convention and represent North Dakota.

I also ask you to pray for yourself – pray that you will consider attending the convention in Albuquerque this summer. If you have attended a national convention before, then you know how amazing, fun and inspirational they are. Plan to go again! If you haven’t attended a national convention, now is the time! LWML will be celebrating 75 years of God’s blessings (1942-2017). Special exhibits and a 75th anniversary “Diamond Dazzel event Saturday night will highlight our past and look toward our future. There will be a “Diamond Dazzle Parade” which will begin the evening. Each district will come in with a sign noting their district name. The district president, past district presidents and district YWRs will follow the sign in. The rest of the delegation is encouraged to make noise to accompany their district entering the hall. Some ideas for noisemakers: whistles, jingle bells, cow bells, drum, clappers, maracas, tambourine. You don’t want to miss this!

Registration for the convention will be in the Winter Quarterly which should have arrived at the beginning of December so hopefully everyone has their copy. Please read all the information in there and plan to be in Albuquerque on June 22-25, 2017 to help celebrate 75 years of LWML. Information can also be found at www.lwml.org.
As I write this, we are entering a new church year with the Advent season. This is the time when we follow our Savior Jesus on His journey from Bethlehem to Calvary. And it is a journey that needs to be followed completely. You can’t have one without the other, to paraphrase an old song. I had a friend who, when asked his favorite holiday, said Easter because that is when Jesus’ work of death and resurrection for us was done. That’s true but you couldn’t have that end without the beginning – Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem as both God and Man starting with the Child born in a manger. John 1:14 says: “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

In our world today there is an abundance of attention given to the Christmas holiday but not so much to Easter. To us as Jesus’ followers, however, it is a complete set. A journey from the manger to the cross to the empty tomb.

So I pray that last month you used the Advent season to prepare for the joy and wonder of Jesus’ birth and you had a joyous celebration of it. Continue now on the journey to the cross through the Lenten season and onto the empty tomb of Easter joy. That’s where our hope and salvation lies – in Jesus, our risen Lord!

Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.

LSB 333, vs. 1

President Valerie

Mission Minded

As we dwell on the birth of our Savior this CHRISTmas season, we should also take the time to think of others as well. I have been member of Shepherd of the Valley (SOTV) in Bismarck for just a couple of years, but I have noticed and participated in events that provide spiritual and physical needs to those in our surrounding community. A women’s Bible study group has recently put together care packages for college students and those in the military. They tried to time the delivery for finals week for the students and after basic training for those in the military. SOTV is also involved a newly formed group of churches and local agencies to provide for local school children that may be on the margins (lack of parental involvement, or family members that are involved with drugs or alcohol). The youth at SOTV also continue to put together backpacks for a local school and this year will be putting together over 40 of those backpacks. The entire congregation participates by donating requested items and there never seems to be a shortage of the needed items!

LWML truly keeps us mission-minded! Whether it is through the Quarterly or their awesome website we can see how our mites bring spiritual and physical care to those in need both in the United States and abroad.

I would love to hear from you on how your church/LWML group reaches out to meet the needs of those in your community.

Blessings, Sue Hartley

blessingspreserved@yahoo.com
Mission Grant VP ~ BONNIE KRENZ

Two grants have already been funded. Praises to Lord for the generous mite offerings from our LWML members! The first portion of the District Scholarship Fund has been sent leaving $28,000 to be funded. The Wahpeton LCMS U project has been completed funded. LCMS U is an initiative to connect and support Lutheran students attending college by involving, connecting, and encouraging parents, congregations and campus ministries as they seek to care for students. Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wahpeton, ND, is forming an LCMS U chapter to reach out to students at North Dakota State College of Science. The funds for this grant will be used for chapter start-up costs, Bible study materials, welcoming party supplies, national conferences, and/or mission opportunities.

At the November Board Meeting the following projects were approved to be funded when mites are available.

- **District Scholarship fund $7,000** The North Dakota Church Worker Scholarship is a program administered by the North Dakota District LCMS for youth and adults who desire to be educated and become full-time workers in God’s kingdom in the LCMS.
- **Orphan Grain Train $4,500** The funds for this grant will be used for various expenses including: building updates, heat, electricity, and insurance for the Jamestown warehouse; gas, license, and insurance for the OGT van; and shipping costs for containers of donated goods.
- **Christ the Way $2,500** The funds from this grant will be used to pay for production and broadcast costs of this radio ministry and provide stabilization of funds for future endeavors and potential rate increases.

Please remember these three projects in your prayers.

Mite Calendar: The Mission Grant committee decided to bring back the mite calendar. Within each issue of the Messenger there will be a mite calendar for one month. If you wish use the calendar to supplement your regular mite collection. The goal of the calendar is to bring focus to one of the mission grant project and if you follow it, to provide extra mite offerings.

Now is time to start preparing a Mission Grant Proposal. The proposals for consideration at the 2018 convention need to be submitted by September 30, 2017. That’s only nine months away. The form is available on the LWML North Dakota District website (http://www.ndlwml.org) under the Mission Grant tab. The forms are included in this Messenger. If there are any questions please contact the Vice President of Mission Grants.

Have you checked out the wonderful posters and bookmarks on the ND Mission Grants page? The bookmarks make a great reminder to pray for our Mission Grant work in North Dakota and around the world. Giving a Mission Grant donation as a gift? Include a bookmark with your card so that your "recipient" can continue to pray for our Mission Grants.

http://www.ndlwml.org/missiongrants/

LWML ND DISTRICT PRAYER CHAIN

President Valerie sent out these prayer requests she received via email, for Sept-Dec 2016:

† Prayers for young women to come forward to represent the ND District in Albuquerque.
† Prayers for Marlene Brandenburg who is battling cancer and not doing well.
† Prayers for Carol Kosel's nephew, Kim of WA, who is in ICU with severe pneumonia.
† Prayers for Josh & Angie Douglas as 3 of their 4 children developed fevers with other symptoms. Their son, Patton, also has leukemia.

If you would like to be on the District prayer chain email list, email President Valerie at president@ndlwml.org and ask her to add your email to the list.
LWML ND DISTRICT MISSION GRANT PROPOSALS NEEDED

The Mission Grants Committee is looking for mission projects to be considered for the 2018-20 Biennium. If you know of a worthy project, please submit an application following these guidelines:

Mission grant proposals shall be submitted in resolution form to the Vice President of Mission Grants at least six (6) months prior to the District convention. Proposals may be submitted by LWML members, societies, units, zones and LCMS Boards. (Bylaws Article XV, Section 1)

Ministries seeking funding should:

- be mission in emphasis, extending the ministry of the Word;
- fit into the plans and projections of the LCMS;
- be current and ready for implementation;
- Be on-going in nature, continuing after the grant money has been expended.

WRITING THE PROPOSAL

- Prepare the cover sheet of your mission grant proposal, including the following items:
  - Name of grant or mission project
  - Location of project
  - Amount requested
  - Name and address of person submitting proposal
  - Name and address information of the person within the project to whom the funds will be sent.

Prepare a separate detailed information paper (single-sided, single-spaced, maximum length 2 pages) about the ministry. The information should include:

- Project goal
- Purpose for which funds will be used
- Budget and cost information
- How does your program differ, broaden or support?
- Long term maintenance & sustainability
- Other comments or information.

Prepare a proposal in resolution form. Be concise and specific. Start with a purpose/goal statement. Include ministry needs, amount of funds requested and purpose for which the money will be used.

(Example)
WHEREAS, Christ in His Holy Word has instructed parents to bring up their children in the way of the Lord and has asked that little children be brought to Him; and
WHEREAS, JC Christian School is a necessary mission field in a new neighborhood and has already drawn new members to the LCMS church; and
WHEREAS, Bible-based materials vastly expand the Christian knowledge of our children; and
WHEREAS, up-to-date video equipment enhances learning capabilities;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League ND District in convention in Wahpeton, ND in June 2014 grant $5,000 to JC Christian School for the purchase of audio-visual equipment and new Bible-based textbooks.

Prepare 2-4 photos to be included with the proposal, either on a CD or to be sent electronically.

- Choose pictures that best illustrate your grant and communicate your mission.
- Write a short description for each photo.

The grant proposal must be submitted by September 30, 2017 to the Vice President of Mission Grants either as an email attachment with photos to missiongrants@ndlwml.org OR 6 copies and a CD of photos mailed to Bonnie Krenz, 9920 Main St. Binford, ND, 58416.

After recommendation by the Mission Grants Committee, approval for ballot by the ND LWML Board of Directors and vote by the delegates in convention in June 2018, you will be contacted by July 1, 2018 as to whether or not your mission project has been chosen for funding.

God bless you as you continue in His Word & work!

Thank you for submitting this proposal and please continue to support all of the mission projects with your prayers and your mites.
Has your unit or zone done something fun lately? Have you hosted a hands on activity? Do you have a regularly scheduled get-together, other than your normal LWML meeting? We are looking for your stories….and especially your pictures!! There are many women out there who would love to glean some of your brilliant ideas, resources, etc! Send any information that could be included in “The Messenger” to editor@ndlwml.org.

The deadline to submit information for the next newsletter is March 1, 2017

Parliamentary Perks ~ Here is a simple way to keep a meeting run smoothly. As the President of the unit come prepared with a simple agenda. Remember to stay with the set agenda. If you as the president know items that need to be considered under a specific topic list it on the agenda – an item that was not finished at the last meeting would be listed under unfinished business so it can be finished at the present meeting.

Call to order
Opening devotion
Reading and approval of minute
Reports standing committees
Unfinished business
New business
Program
Adjournment

ATTENTION TREASURERS: MITES should be sent to:
LWML ND Financial Sec.
Myrna Baneck
1108—3rd Ave NE
Mandan, ND 58554

The ND LWML Central Zone met in Edgeley on October 15 for their Fall Rally. Andrea Eckstein came from Mercy Meals and shared information on the Mercy Meal program. The women of the central zone also got to have a demonstration where we spent 45 minutes packing mercy meals. The meals were assembled, labeled, and packed for shipping. A special thanks to Andrea Eckstein once again for sharing information on the impact Mercy Meals has around the world!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Build A Household of Faith</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Registration opens for the convention in Albuquerque</td>
<td>&quot;Ground Hog Day&quot; - No shadow means winter's over</td>
<td>Safe in God's hands, cuddled in a warm bed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**JOY CARDS**
Memorials & Honorariums September—November 2016

**Ruth Rust**

Duane Olson  L. Zieman
Madelyn Kitzan  Brian Braymen
Frieda Watson  Marion Zimmerman
Roland Senechal  Adeline Brownlee
Judy Lelm  Hazel Smith
Sophy Hauschild  Angelia Weidner
Delores Lips  Marlys M. Dick
Genevieve Kitzman  Kenneth Watson
Lorraine Vig
Lorraine Buchholz-Davis

---

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We’re on the Web! ndlwml.org

DIRECTION

♦ LWML Board of Directors @ Carrington ~ March 2017
♦ LWML Convention @ Albuquerque, NM ~ June 22-25, 2017
♦ LWML ND District Convention @ Minot ~ June 22-24, 2018

The LWML North Dakota District is now on Facebook! Click the “Like” button at the top of the page to become a fan, stay current on news and upcoming events, and share Christian fellowship right from your desk. (www.facebook.com/ND.LWML)

LWML ND District Mission Grants 2016-2018 Biennium

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISSION GRANT</th>
<th>AMOUNT BUDGETED</th>
<th>AMOUNT PAID</th>
<th>BALANCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>ND District Full-Time Church Worker Scholarships</td>
<td>$35,000.00</td>
<td>$7,000.00</td>
<td>$28,000.00</td>
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<td>Orphan Grain Train—ND Branch</td>
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<td>Wahpeton LCMS U</td>
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<td>Christ the Way Radio Ministry</td>
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<td>$5,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providing Spiritual &amp; Emotional Care for Pastors</td>
<td>$8,000.00</td>
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<td>$8,000.00</td>
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<td>Concordia Fort Wayne Food Coop</td>
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<td>$5,000.00</td>
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<td>Christ’s Care for Children: Kenya</td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$8,500.00</strong></td>
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The mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League North Dakota District is to equip and encourage all women to share the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ.