

The Messenger

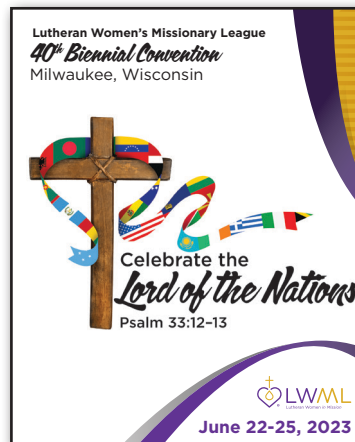
The mission of LWML North Dakota is to equip and encourage all women to share the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ.

The Messenger • LWML North Dakota District • Winter 2022–23 Issue

The 40th LWML Biennial National Convention

LWML 40th Biennial Convention Milwaukee, Wisconsin June 22–25, 2023

The 40th LWML Biennial Convention of the LWML will be held in Milwaukee, WI on Thursday, June 22 through Sunday, June 25, 2023. The theme is “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations” based on Psalm 33:12–13.



Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man. (Psalm 33:12-13).

The LWML North Dakota district will be sending 6 delegates, 3 Young Woman Representatives, the Junior Pastoral Counselor, and our District President. Have you ever been to Milwaukee? This would be a great time to go! You can take in the sights and attend a national convention — an experience you will not soon forget. There are usually around 4,000 attendees at national conventions and almost 3,000 in 2021 at Lexington, Kentucky. Worshiping with fellow Lutherans in this setting is a truly uplifting time. More information is at lwml.org. See the winter Quarterly for registration and hotel information, and more!

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
Invites you to the
40th Biennial Convention
June 22–25, 2023
Wisconsin Center — Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Celebrate the Lord of the Nations
*Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!
The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man (Psalm 33:12-13).*

Convention Goal
As His children, we celebrate the Lord of the nations.

Convention Objectives
Convention attendees, understanding that we are all His children, will:

- Celebrate our Lord through Word and Sacrament.
- Honor God by serving our neighbors.
- Proclaim His message to the nations.

Convention Logo Explanation
The 2023 LWML Convention logo features a wooden cross, reminding us of the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus who takes away the sin of the world. Wrapped around and draped over the cross is a long banner with the flags of many countries. The cross supports the banner as Christ delivers life and salvation to all the children of man. The banner waves symbolizing our life by the Holy Spirit and the movement and proclamation of the Word of God into all nations.

Make plans NOW to ride the bus with us!



Save the Date!

June 22–25, 2023!

Milwaukee, WI. LWML Convention! Be there!

The mission of LWML North Dakota is to equip and encourage all women to share the compassion and hope of Jesus Christ. For more North Dakota District information go to ndlwml.org

LWML ND DISTRICT Mission Grants for the 2022–2024 Biennium by Sue Corwin

Praise to God for blessing the mites given. As of January 1st the following grants have been paid in full: Orphan Grain Train for \$7,500 and also partial payments were made to Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads for \$4,500 and partial payment to Main Street Living ND for \$4,750. Each of the projects with God's blessing will further the sharing of His word. Thank you, God, for giving us the ability to give those mites.

An explanation of how mites are used. A mite is divided so not all goes to pay grant projects. From every dollar donated \$0.25 is sent to National LWML to help support their budget. The remaining \$0.75 is used by the District. There are District expenses that must be paid before the mission grant projects are paid. Expenses such as the printing and mailing of the newsletter and the cost associated with the website. District officers may submit a voucher for mileage to attend meetings, postage, meals, and other costs associated with serving you through being a District Officer. Many District Officers donate all or some of these costs. So you can see that each coin you place in your Mite Box is used in many ways.

VP Mission Grants, *Sue Corwin*

LWML ND DISTRICT MISSION GRANT 2022–2024 BIENNIUM	TOTAL	PAID	BALANCE
MG 2201 — ND Full-Time Church Workers Scholarship	\$35,000	0	\$35,000
MG 2202 — Orphan Grain Train Jamestown, ND	\$7,500	\$7,500	0
MG 2211 — Main Street Living North	\$9,500	\$4,750	\$4,750
MG 2217 — Shepherds Hill At The Crossroads	\$9,000	\$4,500	\$4,500
MG 2203 — Mercy Meals Of North Dakota	\$5,000	0	\$5,000
MG 2216 — Grace Lutheran School Education Grant For Unchurched Student	\$6,000	0	\$6,000
MG 2209 — Food And Clothing Co-Op Concordia Seminary Fort Wayne	\$5,000	0	\$5,000
MG 2207 — Kruse Memorial Chapel Transformation (Partial funding)	\$500	0	\$500
2022–2024 Biennium Mission Grant Total:	\$77,500	\$16,750	\$60,750

ND District Banner Theme — “Lord Of All Creation”

Important LWML LINKS:

- lwml.org/mites-received
- lwml.org/posts/free-resources/mite-challenge-calendar
- lwml.org/all-spiritual-growth
- lwml.org/posts/free-resources/read-through-the-bible-in-one-year
- ndlwm.org
- lwml.org/mission-grants

Our North Dakota District Board of Directors will be choosing a banner theme for the 2023 LWML Milwaukee convention at our February BOD. This banner, to be designed and crafted by creative women in our district, will represent North Dakota at the National LWML Convention to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in June 22–25, 2023. This banner will also be used for our District LWML Convention at Bismarck in 2024. Contact President LaurieAnn if you are interested in crafting the banner.

The banner theme is: “**Lord of all Creation**” based on Colosians 1:15–20 with the emphasis on verse 16. It is based on the Milwaukee convention theme of “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.”

Convention Banner

Call for Designs!

Submit your designs by **February 3, 2023**

Banner designs may be submitted via mail or email to:

LaurieAnn Totenhagen
8028 123rd Ave SE
Stirum, ND 58069

email: pres@ndlwm.org

Lord of the Nations

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior!
I write this during the last week of the Christmas Season.
Epiphany is January 6 and we wonder at the Magi who

come bearing gifts to our Lord. The Magi recognize that this baby who was born in a manger in Bethlehem is someone extra special — not only a King, but our King. Our Savior who came not only to the Jews, but also to the Gentiles. Not an earthly king to save us from our mortal enemies, but a Heavenly King to save us from ourselves, the world, and the devil for our eternal salvation. Jesus is the Lord of the Nations!

We will **“Celebrate the Lord of the Nations”** (Psalm 33:12–13) in **Milwaukee, Wisconsin June 22–25, 2023**. As His children, we celebrate the Lord of the Nations through Word and Sacrament, Honor God by serving our neighbor, and Proclaim His message to the nations. Come with us by car, bus, or train. The North Dakota District attendees will be riding the bus with those from MN North District. The bus will leave from Fargo on Wednesday morning with arrival in Milwaukee that evening. More information will be found on our web page ndlwm.org and Facebook page as we receive it. If you are interested in riding the bus to Milwaukee and haven't already put your name on the sign-up sheet let Renee Johnson know via email at bylaws@ndlwm.org. For registration information see the **LWML Winter Quarterly** or lwml.org under Convention Central tab. I am so excited to attend convention with our delegates, YWRs, our Pastoral Counselor, and all our fellow sisters (and brothers) in Christ. Is there someone in your unit that you could sponsor to attend the convention? It is a wonderful way to learn more about what the LWML does.

In this issue you will see pictures of what some of our units have done to promote the 80 years LWML has been an official organization. What a wonderful way to celebrate! Keep those photos coming. What has your unit done for **“What's your 80?”**

For 80 years the LWML has been blessed with women who **“Serve the LORD with Gladness”** and who contribute their **Mites** to fund Mission Grants that we might serve our neighbors and spread the Gospel of our Risen Lord. We look forward to how the Lord uses us in the future.

Serving the Lord with Gladness,
President, *LaurieAnn Totenhagen*



Memorials and Honorariums October — December 2022

MEMORIALS:

anonymous gift	Lyle Clark
Anna Hakke	Robert Haas
Marlene Hanson	Lisa Gibbon
Orva Krause	

HONORARIUM:

Nikki Rahlf



We give thanks and praise for these wonderful Children of God who have or are joyfully serving our Lord and we give thanks to those who remembered them through their donation to the LWML. What a truly awesome way to spread the Good News of salvation through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.





“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you” (Isaiah 60:1).



You're doing a little post-holiday Facebook browsing. Looking to see what sorts of Christmas get-togethers others had. The food. The gift-giving. The traveling. Reacting to all the holiday wishes from family and friends. Scrolling picture after picture.

Then you come across a post which has been shared by dozens of friends and has hundreds of likes. It is an image of 3 Middle-Eastern kings giving gifts to a baby in a manger. Decked out in royal apparel, each presenting a different gift to the lowly infant laying in hay. And the caption to the image reads: “Wise men still seek Him.”

Leaving aside the obvious fact that those illustrated wise men must be lost since the Magi in Matthew 2 found Jesus in a house; and it seems unlikely that Joseph and Mary took the manger with them like some sort of ancient near-eastern pack'n'play. The caption is what gets our attention. “Wise men still seek Him.” How? By what means? How does one go about seeking and finding God? Is there some sort of map? X marks the spot? Are there turn by turn directions? Is a person supposed to interpret the positions of the stars and planets in the sky? Or mystically tune into the harmony of the natural world to see the God behind it all? Or read all the wisdom of the world to comprehend the mind of God?

We are by nature sinful and dead in our trespasses. God is by nature holy and righteous. How does a sinful human being search in order to make his way into the presence of a holy and righteous God?

Everyone seeks God. But the only god you can find by seeking is one that looks a lot like you. A god made in your own image, after your own likeness. A god who cares about the causes important to you. A god who calls good that which you call good and evil that which you call evil. The god we seek and find cannot save.

No, it is God who does the seeking, and the finding, and the saving. When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell. He emptied Himself, taking on the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

The Son of God humbled Himself in this flesh and blood to make Himself known to a world enslaved by sin. He revealed the mercy of God by taking the sin of the world into that flesh and blood and dying with it upon the cross. And He boldly declared the grace of God by rising from the grave, that all who live and believe in Him will have eternal life.

The good news is not that wise men seek God. Rather, the good news is that God seeks that which is sinful and corrupt and unrighteous, and provides forgiveness, new life, and eternal salvation. God is revealed through His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord!



—Rev. Michael Suelzle, Jr. Pastoral Counselor of the LWML ND District



Spotlight on VP Communications *by Ali Arndt*

What does the Vice President of Communications on the ND LWML district board do? You may be asking. Trust me I asked the same question when the nominating committee had asked me to run for the position but what I have discovered is that VP of Communication is a lot of fun. In this position I oversee the different avenues the district communicates through the website, The Messenger, Facebook. I also oversee the LWML store. I don't do this all alone but have been blessed to work with some very talented ladies. Cheryl Rackov is our newsletter editor and designer; she also does the graphic designing for much of our other information and is sent out in the district. Marie Johnson is our web master and keeps the information on the website up and running. I oversee the Facebook page and right now the LWML store.

What is the purpose of the communication? To share the information from national, district, and local levels of LWML. We are always looking for pictures and stories of what our local groups are doing so we can share. If you have something you want to share, please send it to communication@ndlwml.org we would love to get it in our newsletter and posted on Facebook.

Also, we are looking for someone who is interested in overseeing the LWML store.

I thank God for the opportunity to serve on the board and share my love for the LWML.
VP Communications, *Ali Arndt*



WHAT'S YOUR 80?

1942–2022 — 80 Years of God's Grace



The Concordia Lutheran LWML in James-town collected 99 pairs of underwear and 215 pairs of sock to be given to Orphan Grain Train. Over the summer we also collected items for hygiene kits and that total was 205 which included soap, wash clothes, combs, towels and tooth brushes.



To help commemorate 80 years, the ladies of Bethlehem/St. John's LWML of rural Upham, along with members of the congregation, collected items to fill 80 plus backpacks to donate to the Orphan Grain Train in Jamestown. Pictured are the those who gathered to fill the backpacks.



Immanuel Lutheran Church LWML Unit, Fargo, collected 80 (+2) packages of diapers and wipes which were donated to The Perry Center, a local Christ centered maternity home for young unwed mothers. Pictured are the unit's President, Patty Walla (right) and Secretary, Joan Miller (left).



Grace Lutheran LWML in Fargo collected 80 bottles of dish soap for the local food pantry.

Assembly of Leaders Training in St. Louis

In October of 2022 Jr. Counselor Mike Suelzle, Miki Peterson, Kim Kuhlmann, and Ali Arndt attend the Assembly of Leaders Training (AOL) in St. Louis, MO. It was a full 3 days of leadership training and information to share with our districts. Part of the training is to create an action plan to bring back the information to share with the district. Please be looking for some more information in the Spring about an event presented by the AOL group.



Young Women Representatives Chosen For LWML Convention in Milwaukee



The YWR's selected are Melissa Sutton, St Paul, Minot; Adrian Montonye, Zion, Grafton; and Beth Suelzle, St Andrew's, Niagara. These young women have a deep love and devotion to our Lord Jesus Christ and will represent us at convention. Being a YWR is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the LWML and enjoy a very interesting and spiritually inspiring event with women of all ages. An awesome adventure with Him and other women of faith is in store for our YWR's and all who attend the LWML Convention in Milwaukee this summer!



Zone and Unit Activities



Bible study at NW Zone Fall Rally



Delicious lunch of various types of soups, salads and desserts were served.

On October 8, Peace, St. Matthews, & St. John churches hosted the NW Zone Fall Rally at Garrison. Pastor Rothchild, NW Zone Counselor, led our bible study called "Prayer Date." Our guest speakers were Pastor Brian Doel of Our Saviors in Minot. He spoke about ways we can support seminarians and learned how our mites are used to help seminarians.



Pictured are Pastor Rothchild, NW Zone Counselor, and his wife Peggy (left). Pastor Brian Doel and wife Michele (rt).



Our new officers for NW Zone are (l-r) Renee Johnson, DeAnn Briggs, & Gloria Thomson.



Pictured here are Val Fast & Connie Kreshbach ready to serve our guests.



Making time to shop at the Booknook.



Pastor Voss leading the Bible study



SW Zone Fall Rally Bible study at Redeemer in Dickinson.

On October 8, Redeemer Lutheran held the SW Zone Fall Rally in Dickinson. Our welcome and devotion was by Pastor Michael Wolters. Pastor Voss (retired) from Mandan led our Bible study and Joyce Voss led the business meeting. Guest speaker, Lisa Wolters presented the faithful journey of creating the book, "My Small Catechism For Small Hands" and how Redeemer's group, the Little Lutheran Book, became its publisher. A delicious luncheon was served afterward.

Send us your pictures and activities — we would like to feature your zone and unit activities!

Featuring NW Zone and SW Zone

February 2023

Mite Challenge Calendar

THEY SHALL SEE GOD: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God (Matthew 5:8)."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>5</p> <p>List five names or attributes of God!</p> <p>Donate 95¢</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Read Mark 8:18</p> <p>Donate 35¢</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Look through your favorite photo album.</p> <p>Donate 60¢</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Rest your eyes and say a prayer of thanks for them.</p> <p>Donate 75¢</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Make your annual eye exam appointment.</p> <p>Donate 25¢</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Sing "Open My Eyes That I May See".</p> <p>Donate 40¢</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Put on sunglasses and go for a walk.</p> <p>Donate 50¢</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Play "Peek a Boo" with a baby.</p> <p>Donate 50¢</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Thank God for the people you see around you!</p> <p>Donate 25¢</p>	<p>14</p> <p>What is the color of the eyes of someone you love?</p> <p>Donate 95¢</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Read Genesis 9:13-17.</p> <p>Donate 40¢</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Read the first chapter of a new book.</p> <p>Donate 50¢</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Random Acts of Kindness Day. Help a friend.</p> <p>Donate 25¢</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bake your favorite recipe. Share it with a friend.</p> <p>Donate 80¢</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Share your favorite Gospel story with a child.</p> <p>Donate 55¢</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Read about God's work through the LCMS missionaries.</p> <p>Donate 40¢</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Bring a cup of 'eye opening' coffee to a friend.</p> <p>Donate 60¢</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Ash Wednesday! Read an LWML Lent devotion.</p> <p>Donate 45¢</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Read Matthew 5:16.</p> <p>Donate 20¢</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Read about the upcoming 2023 LWML Convention!</p> <p>Donate 75¢</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Sew an eyeglass case for Most Ministries.</p> <p>Donate 25¢</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Offer a prayer for your congregation.</p> <p>Donate 65¢</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Eat an eye healthy dinner.</p> <p>Donate 35¢</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Read Matthew 13:16.</p> <p>Donate 55¢</p>				



LWML Mite Boxes through the years.

2021-2023 Biennial Mission Goal

\$2,150,000

Total Mites Received:

\$2,048,385.20

Total Mites Still Needed:

\$101,614.80

Mission Grants Goal

\$2,150,000

Mite Offerings Received November 2022

\$123,180.82

Upcoming Dates

Zone Activities

Spring Zone Rallies:

Central: Saturday, April 15, 2023
Eastern: Saturday, April 15, 2023 at
Beautiful Savior in Fargo

NE: (To Be Announced)

NW: April 15, 2023 at St. Mark's in Minot

SE: (TBA)

SW: (TBA)

Fall Zone Rallies:

Central: October 7, 2023. Location TBA

NW: October 14, 2023 in Minot

All other Zones: (TBA)

District & National

Make Plans For Upcoming Events:

- BOD Meeting — February 4, 2023 at
Concordia in Jamestown
- LWML Convention — June 22–25, 2023 in
Milwaukee, WI
- ND LWML Fall Rallies

The Messenger is published four times during the year. Download available at www.ndlwml.org/messenger
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 Let us know about your unit's news — pictures and happenings — as we joyfully serve the LORD with gladness (Psalm 100:2).

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