



CROSS CONNECTIONS

MOORHEAD, MN 2022

LWML MN North District 30th Biennial Convention

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

MINNESOTA NORTHERN LIGHT*"Serve the Lord with Gladness..." Psalm 100:2*

our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen."

Serving Him with you,
Kathleen Brandt
LWML MN North District
President

The 30th Biennial Convention of the LWML Minnesota North District is "in the books."

We were "Drawn to the Cross" and were reminded to *Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go* (Joshua 1:9b).

We had an exciting, busy, enriching and fun convention. We set a new mission goal of \$145,000 and chose eleven Mission Grants to fund. We elected new officers, passed resolutions and enacted new bylaws. We had an upbeat and lively keynote speaker, Debbie Griffith, who reminded us that God is with us and His Grace is on us. But most of all, we heard God's Word in Bible study by Rev. Sam Pitsch and at opening worship with our Pastoral Counselors: Pastor Stockman, Pastor Vrudny

and Pastor Timm. The choir was wonderful as were the hymns we sang. It was truly a beautiful service. We enjoyed all the speakers and everyone who took part in the variety show.

Now we move forward to this 2022–2024 biennium as we encourage, enrich, enlighten, and equip our members as it is written in the LWML Pledge:

"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



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Young Women

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• 320-808-3371

Committee Members

Rev. Matthew Vrudny, Pastoral Counselor • Barbara England
 • Marcia Lips

As God’s people, it is important to be in God’s Word, but sometimes we need someone to chew God’s Word with us. Together we point out to each other how Christ is active in each of our lives. This helps us focus on what God’s Word tells us. *Forever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path* (Psalm 119:89;105). We work together keeping our priorities in the correct order even when the worldly order appeals to us and we are tempted to follow that order. We focus on Jesus together in our everyday lives. Our LWML sisters walk hand in hand as they study and read God’s Word together “serving the Lord with gladness” in their local congregations and communities. When we gather at conventions, rallies, meetings, and retreats, we encourage each other by sharing our activities and fellowship.

I want to share some ideas I received from fellow LWML women over the years:

- Open your Bible and lay it on your kitchen counter, dresser or bathroom vanity. Let two or three verses speak to you. Tomorrow read more on those pages or turn to another passage and do the same. Keep going daily. At your next society meeting, share how God spoke to you. I am amazed at this influence in my life.
- Before you go to sleep at night, list in your mind the blessings you received during the day. You will find that you fall asleep in Jesus' arms, wallowing in His blessings.
- Before your feet hit the floor each morning, “Put on the full armor of God” (Ephesians 6:14-17). Satan shudders and will scatter.

These activities that I stress to young women focus on God’s Word which transforms and renews us like nothing else will. Whether we are a young woman or a seasoned LWML woman, God’s Word works in us.

2022 Upcoming Events

Aug 12-14	LWML MN North District Retreat at LIC
Sept 15	Deadline for newsletter articles
Oct 11	LWML MN North District BOD Meeting
Oct-Nov	LWML Rallies check online for dates and times

The *Minnesota Northern Light* newsletter is published quarterly. Article submission deadline is December 15, March 15, June 15 and September 15. Sign up to receive the newsletter online. Go to lwmlmnn.org and look for the Subscribe button.



Mustard Seed Devotions can be sent directly to your email daily. Visit www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions to sign up.

Christian Life

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Committee Members

Rev. Patrick Lovejoy, Pastoral Counselor • Jolene Henning • Karena Lapolice • Doris Schroeder
• Ruth Thompson

Our convention is now in the rearview mirror and it's time to start looking forward to summer. I know some of the groups do not meet during the summer due to vacations and other activities. However, it is not a time to take a break from being in the Word.

I recently received an email with the latest post from Donna Snow identifying *The 13 Best Bible Study Methods*. These methods can be used by you in your private Bible study time. With Donna's permission, I'm listing those 13 methods.

To get a further explanation on each of the methods, visit www.artesianministries.org/bible-study/13-best-bible-study-methods. You can also contact me at carainer@frontiernet.net or 320-743-2131 and I will send you a copy of the expanded explanations.

Here are Donna Snow's 13 Bible study methods:

First Things First: Start with Prayer

Scripture is God's breath exhaled onto the page. Focusing your mind and thoughts on Him comes first and foremost. **Always begin your study time with prayer.**

- Method #1: Study One Book of the Bible at a time**
Expect to spend 3–4 weeks and read through several times.
- Method #2: Read Straight Through the Bible**
It's not necessary to start with Genesis, but read all 66 books.
- Method #3: Write Out Parts of the Bible**
Writing it down commits it to memory.
- Method #4: Character Study**
Who's who in the Bible and why do they matter?
- Method #5: Topical Bible Study**
Pick a topic such as temptation, peace, forgiveness and research.
- Method #6: Memorize Scripture**
Focus on portions of Scripture that speak to your current situation.
- Method #7: Bible Journaling (the SOAP Method)**
Write down **S**cripture, record **O**bservations, **A**pply and **P**ray.
- Method #8: Single Word Study**
Search Scripture for every instance a word is used (love, fear, humility, etc.).
- Method #9: Coloring Scripture (Bible Marginalia)** -
Meditate on a verse as you highlight or color in margins.
- Method #10: Read Scripture Like a Novel** - Visualize the surroundings and events.
- Method #11: Pray Through the Psalms**
Every emotion we experience can be found in the Psalms.
- Method #12: Pull Out Your Biblical Maps** -
Understand the geography of where various events occurred.
- Method #13: Use Bible Flash Cards** -
Use for learning books of the Bible, Biblical characters, and timelines.

Christian Life (cont'd)

The Bottom Line

The Bible is our only true source of wisdom and knowledge. Regular studying of God's Word provides a firm foundation to grow and strengthen your faith.

Also, remember that both the Prayer Service and the LWML Sunday Service are available for your groups and congregations. Material and free downloads are available at www.lwml.org.



Prayer Service

The 2022 Prayer Service, based on Luke 11:1, "Lord, Teach us to Pray," looks at various forms of prayer used frequently by believers as we seek to honor Christ, the Lord of the Church, with our prayers.

This celebratory LWML Sunday will encourage all hearers of the victory which is already ours through Baptism, so we might live each day confidently trusting in Christ.



LWML Sunday

"For Us and With Us," is the theme for LWML Sunday 2022 and is based on Paul's letter to the Romans. Paul tells us that each of us has faced challenges and circumstances greater than our own strength (Romans 8:31-39), but, in Christ, who is for us and with us, we are already more than conquerors through Him who loved us. This celebratory LWML Sunday will encourage all hearers of the victory which is already ours through Baptism, so we might live each day confidently trusting in Christ.

Mission Grants Report

"A total amount of \$21,000 in Mites for LWML MN North grants was raised this past quarter. The Board of Directors approved the payment of grant allocations as follows: \$1,000 for Orphan Grain Train; \$4,000 for C.R.O.S.S. Appeal; \$2,000 for Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination; \$8,000 for Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students; \$1,000 for Swaddling Clothes; \$1,000 for "Main Street Living North" Ministry Outreach TV Program; \$1,000 for DOXOLOGY Pastoral Care and Well-Being; \$1,000 for Project 24, Christ's Care for Children - Kenya; \$1,000 for New Shepherds for South Sudan; \$1,000 for Connecting People in an inclusive Christian Housing Community. The chart below details the current balance remaining for the 2022-2024 biennium.

	MISSION GRANTS FOR THE 2022-2024 BIENNIUM (Balance as of July 12, 2022)	GRANT AMOUNT	BALANCE REMAINING
Grant 1	Orphan Grain Train	\$10,000	\$9,000
Grant 2	C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$18,000	\$14,000
Grant 3	Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$8,000	\$6,000
Grant 4	Lutheran Island Camp	\$10,000	\$10,000
Grant 5	Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students	\$32,000	\$24,000
Grant 6	Swaddling Clothes	\$10,000	\$9,000
Grant 7	"Main Street Living North" Ministry Outreach TV Program	\$10,000	\$9,000
Grant 8	Doxology Pastoral Care and Well-being	\$15,000	\$14,000
Grant 9	Project 24, Christ's Care for Children - Kenya	\$10,800	\$9,800
Grant 10	New Shepherds for South Sudan	\$7,500	\$6,500
Grant 11	Promoting an Inclusive Christian Housing Community of Faith	\$13,700	\$12,700
	TOTALS	\$145,000	\$124,000

Memorials and Honorariums

April 2022 to June 2022

In memory of Dorothy Kaler from Beth Heller
In memory of Connie Strandberg from Isle, Trinity LWML
In memory of Eileen Klein from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML
In memory of Nancy Simar from Peggy Pasche
In memory of Carol Klatt from Vergas, St. Paul's Loon lake

In memory of Janice Sonnenberg from Detroit Lakes, Zion
In memory of Helen Wippich from Detroit Lakes, Zion
In memory of Lorraine Flatau from Kathy Brandt
In memory of Connie Strandberg from Kettle River Zone
In memory of Lorraine Flatau from Jean Tester

In memory of Lorraine Flatau from Kathy Steinmetz
In memory of Carol Klatt from Donna Hoffman
In memory of Mavis Pfeiffer from Donna Hoffman
In memory of Arlene Harms from Isle, Trinity LWML
In memory of Lorraine Flatau from Flatau Family

In memory of Meronda Redepping from Bellingham, Trinity Ladies Aid
In memory of Dick Ohm from Jeanetta Heinrich
In memory of Chuck Aldrich from Ottertail, St. John's LWML
In memory of Lucia Garcia from Ottertail, St. John's LWML
In memory of Ted Greenwaldt from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML

In memory of Hildegard Thompson from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML
In memory of Janet Stockman from Karena Lapolice
In memory of Janet Stockman from Kathy Brandt
In honor of Angie Ringstad from Kathy Brandt
In honor of Rev. Dr. Don Fondow from Kathy Brandt

In memory of Paul Vrudny from Kathy Brandt
In memory of Barbara Moen from Carol Ann Sander
In memory of Loraine Schrader from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML
In memory of Courtney Blake from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel LWML

Memorial gifts and honorariums should be sent to:
Jan Carlson, Financial Secretary
408 3rd Ave S, Princeton MN 55371

If you need assistance please call Jan at 763-631-0399 or email her at financialsec@lwmlmnn.org. The Financial Remittance form can be downloaded from the resources page located on our district website lwmlmnn.org.

LWML Minnesota North District Board of Directors



LWML MN North District
www.lwmlmnn.org
 LWML: www.lwml.org

Submit an article

Does your zone or society have an event or story to share? Please send your article and pictures to the Editor at: editor@lwmlmnn.org.

Minnesota Northern Light

Sign up to receive an email notice each quarter announcing when the *Minnesota Northern Light* is ready to download from the district website: www.lwmlmnn.org.

Prayer & Praise Mite Calendar

A great help in your prayer and praise life – especially remembering the mission grants we’re supporting. Download this month’s calendar from the Publication Menu.

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2022 District Convention June 20–22, 2022

Pre-convention Activities

The Board of Directors met on Sunday, June 19, at 3 p.m. to finalize the convention plans. We heard from the board members about their committee plans. Carol VonSoosten, from the LWML Gifts of Love, spoke to the group about gift planning and legacy giving. Michelle Jenks, LWML Strategic Plan Facilitator, spoke to the group encouraging everyone to enjoy the convention.

We were joined by a group of volunteers to fill the convention tote bags with

information and other items. These bags were given to each convention registrant as they registered.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church hosted the group for a delicious salad dinner. After dinner, we returned to the Marriott to complete any last-minute duties.

This convention was successful because of the many volunteers who worked so hard and for so long before the convention began. **Thank you to everyone who had a part in it!**



2022–2024 Mission Grants

A goal of \$145,000 was set for the Mission Grant Goal for the 2022–2024 biennium.

The Mission Grant Proposals which met the criteria of the LWML MN North District Bylaws and were selected by the Mission Grants Committee were voted for on Tuesday, June 21, 2022. The votes were tallied and the grants receiving the most votes were funded until the goal of \$145,000 was reached.

	2022–2024 MISSION GRANTS LIST in order by plurality of votes to be funded	GRANT AMOUNT
Grant 1	Orphan Grain Train	\$10,000
Grant 2	C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$18,000
Grant 3	Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$8,000
Grant 4	Lutheran Island Camp	\$10,000
Grant 5	Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students	\$32,000
Grant 6	Swaddling Clothes	\$10,000
Grant 7	“Main Street Living North” Ministry Outreach TV Program	\$10,000
Grant 8	Doxology Pastoral Care and Well-being	\$15,000
Grant 9	Project 24, Christ’s Care for Children - Kenya	\$10,800
Grant 10	New Shepherds for South Sudan	\$7,500
Grant 11	Promoting an Inclusive Christian Housing Community of Faith	\$13,700



LWML Store Committee

Convention Exhibits

Seventeen mission organizations were at convention sharing their ministries with others. The exhibitors were thankful they had been invited to be part of our convention; they were pleased with the interest of the people who stopped by. The positioning of the exhibits in a high traffic area enabled convention-goers to stop by the exhibits. Also, placing the LWML exhibits in the back of the convention hall worked well.

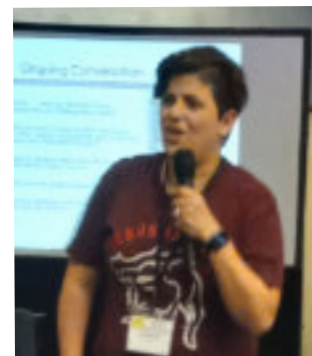
Breakout Sessions

Four women of faith gave presentations during our breakout sessions. Each person spoke at two sessions; they were well-attended. Carol von Soosten, representing LWML on the national level, encouraged us to look at our life plans; Carol Borchers uplifted and encouraged us to become local leaders; Sherli Adkins informed us of the mission of Ophan Grain Train, and Joy Marcus inspired us to find joy and opportunity in all we do, as she shared her work among the Muslim population.

Five members of our Breakout Committee were there; Tina and Olivea McDonald, LuAnn Carow, Vicki Ruzicka, and Betty Greiff. All are from the Park I and II Regions. Glenice Hall was the Facilities Coordinator. Thank you to all who made these memorable and fun experiences!

Joy Markus – “Sharing the Gospel”

Joy’s presentation was very intriguing as she updated her audience on what has happened in her life since we last heard from her. She had a great testimony on how faithful God has been through two surgeries, Covid, and her marriage. She loves teaching young Muslim children about Jesus and how He can be active in their lives. They come back week after week wanting to hear more. Soon parents may come too. They also have many refugees from Ukraine. POBLO has expanded to a great extent.





OGT – Compassion for Many

The breakout session on Orphan Grain Train, led by Sheri Adkins, allowed for open discussion and excitement for the opportunities to help.

Many of the attendees were familiar with Orphan Grain Train and the work they do. As an active volunteer for Orphan Grain Train, Sheri shared ideas on the needs of OGT that people had not thought of – i.e., tools, sewing

machines, toys, and medical supplies, just to name a few. She also had a handout with the various kits that can be made and where to find the information.

The sessions were also enhanced by the working knowledge of several attendees. Rev. Reed Stockman volunteers in Morris, MN, and spoke of the needs he knew of. Sonia Gunderson from Vergas, MN, talked about all the items she had that were shipped to the Ysleta Mission, including a baptismal font that was made in Perham, MN.



Carol VonSoosten – “LWML Gift Planning”

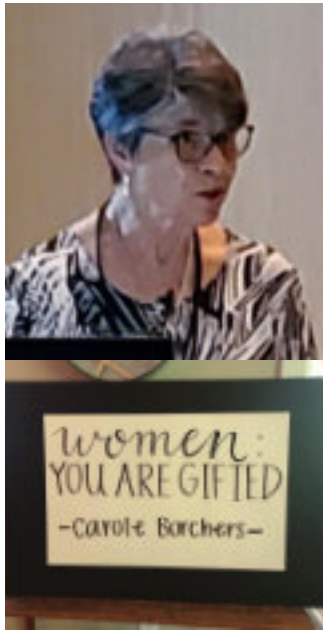
When we think of Gift Planning, we typically think of wills, estates, and finance. Carol VonSoosten brings a whole new perspective to this thought process...that of a Christian. What can we leave our family by way of a blessing or Christian wishes or reasons for our final decisions? The Gifts of Love Ministry through the LWML provides a free counselor who works with the family and other advisors.

Carol is the counselor for our district. She introduced us to Katy Giffords, who is also working with the LWML in our region. Carol or Katy are also available to speak at any of your group rallies or

meetings. The Gifts of Love program through the LWML is a counseling service you may wish to consider.

Carol told us of the Five 'P's of Christian Gift Planning: Prayer, People, Property, Plans, and Planners. You may or may not wish to add a charitable plan in your final legacy. In any case, you may expect to have the meeting at a convenient place for you at no charge. You may also expect professional guidance and counseling with complete confidentiality. You will continue to work with your current advisors and financial planners.





Carole Borchers – “Women: You are Gifted!”

“Women: You are Gifted” was the title of Carole’s leadership presentation. Carole has had several types of mission experiences in her life. As a result, she is compelled to spread the Gospel wherever God leads her. She used several personal experiences to show us how we can find those Spiritual Gifts in each of us. Then she showed us how we can discover them. After that, how do we make these gifts grow? Then, how do we minister or share God’s love with others using our gifts? Carole shared how we can be ourselves, step out, and share God’s amazing love with joy.



Opening Worship



Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9b).



Under the Convention Theme, “*Drawn to the Cross*”, LWML members and guests gathered at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2022, for Opening Worship. The service was led by Rev. Bruce Timm, Rev. Matthew Vrudny, Rev. Reed Stockman (LWMN MNN District Pastoral Counselors), and Rev. Sam Pitsch (Pastor of the Host Congregation, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Moorhead, MN). Mary Ann Bell served as the organist and accompanist.



Highlights included the convention choir’s selection, “One Thing Have I Desired,” directed by Angie Ratcliff, and the message delivered by Rev. Vrudny. In his message, Pastor Vrudny highlighted examples where Biblical figures trusted God’s wisdom and ability to deliver them from harm. We are also commanded to trust in the Lord our God, knowing that He is with us wherever we go and whatever we do. Attendees continued their worship by participating in the Service of the Sacrament, administered by Rev. Sam Pitsch, the LWML Pastoral Counselors and area pastors.

Following the closing hymn, everyone was invited to enjoy refreshments and meet the candidates for the Board of Directors.

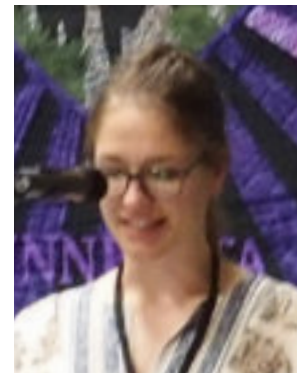
YWRs

Lexington, KY LWML Convention

Alyssa Boysen and Megan Reber reported on their experiences as Young Women Representatives to the convention in Lexington, Kentucky.



Alyssa Boysen



Megan Reber

Convention Bible Study

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9b), was the basis for the Bible study led by Reverend Sam Pitsch, of Our Redeemer, Moorhead. He began the study defining the word fear:

- *An unpleasant, often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger, evil or pain.*
- *An expression of anxiety concerning the outcome of something or the safety and well-being of someone.*

As people at their tables talked about the very real fears in our world today, fears for our children growing up in this world today headed the list. The physical dangers of violence, as well as fears of the unknown, were among many listed by the group.

We recognized anxiousness in sharing the Good News with friends and family — will we be rejected or hurt? Religion has become divisive. Pastor reminded us that the Gospel unifies, Satan divides.

Rev. Pitsch gave examples of rational fears, such as those that center around the faith of our children; fears that are real versus irrational fears, those that are fictitious, unreal. God says do not be afraid. Trust Him.

Biblical characters who were afraid, had real fears.. The Israelites as they crossed the Red Sea with the Egyptians following gave them great fear. Adam and Eve feared God after they sinned. King Herod feared when he heard Jesus was born, and

he threw fear on his people as he ordered all baby boys under the age of two to be killed. Jeremiah and many of the prophets were fearful for their lives as they spoke God's messages to the people of Israel. Queen Esther had real fears for the welfare of her people and feared for her own life as the Queen, being a Jew. Jonah, Job and many others were recalled by the group.

We recognized fear as a tool and a weapon used in our world today. It is used to intimidate and to gain control of people and situations. It is used in politics and political ads. It is a powerful emotion used against us. Terrorism is a form of fear.

However, we can take comfort in the fact that in the Bible, there are 365 times we can find exhortation or commands that overcome fear spoken by our Lord. Among them:

- Do not be afraid. Peace be with you. Be strong and courageous. Do not be anxious about anything...Do not be dismayed. Take heart it is I — believe. Cast your burden on the Lord;
- We looked at many examples of miracles of Jesus; He is the REMEDY to all our fears — He brings salvation and LIFE;
- The raising of Jairus' daughter and healing the sick woman. "*Do not fear, only believe*" (Mark 5).
- *Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom* (Luke 12:32).
- No worries — he provides for the lilies in the field, He will provide for you (Luke 12);
- Rev. Pitsch pointed out miracles that illustrated the opposite of fears such as scarcity:

- Miracle of feeding the 5,000 created abundance.
- Miracles of catching fish led to abundance so the nets almost broke — both boats full.
- Running out of wine at the wedding in Cana, Jesus gave an abundance...and the best.
- Rev. Pitsch stated "Miracles foreshadow what will be in eternity."
- We saw fear in the disastrous storms on the Sea of Galilee — Jesus calmed the storms. Jesus has control over creation.

We are sinners not in harmony, but in eternity there will be harmony in the new creation.

Lepers were isolated. Jesus healed and brought them into community. Eternal life will bring fellowship

In the fear of death, we look to the resurrection when we will be raised to life everlasting. We know the outcome! In Revelation 21, Jesus tells us He will wipe away our tears and there will be no more death and dying.

Rev. Pitsch encouraged us to replace fear with faith. Abide in the Word; believe His promises. Replace fear with confidence. Profess Jesus is Lord; believe it; talk about it. Show confidence in Christ!

HOPE is the assurance of Jesus' return. The Peace of Christ is with us.

At the end of the study, we enjoyed discussing hymns that gave us hope and confidence and provided comfort when fearful, such as: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."



"A Closer Walk With God"

On a wonderfully fresh, early June morning, the last day of the LWML MN North District LWML Convention, approximately 45 walkers set off to have "A closer walk with God."

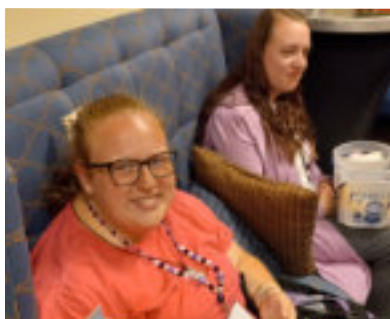


After a group picture, the Mite Walk took the LWML walkers on a one and one-half mile hike, through one of the residential neighborhoods of south Moorhead. The trees in this area are mature, making the already lush lawns feel even cooler. About halfway through the journey, walkers were treated to a daisy filled meadow-like area, to delight the senses.

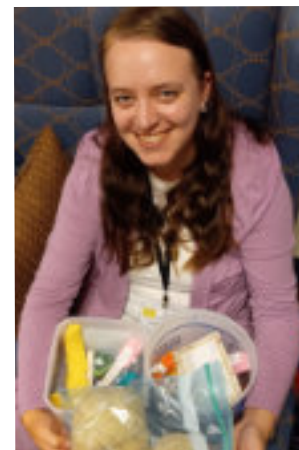
The Mite Walk raised over \$3,500, with walkers gathering donations from family and friends. Thanks be to God for the creation He has given to us and the hearts that gave so generously to help fund the many mission grants!



Rebecca Pumphrey, Sarah Laue, Carol Nefstead, Alyssa Boysen, Kayla Peterson, Ruby Prochnow



Rebecca Pumphrey, Sarah Laue



Sarah Laue

Young Women

What a beautiful experience to serve as the LWML Minnesota North District YWRs! The seven young women (Alyssa Boysen, Sarah Laue, Kayla Peterson, Rebecca Pumphrey, Megan Reber, Carol Nefstead, and Stacy Larsen) attending the convention were exhilarating and enthusiastic gals invigorated to "Serve the Lord With Gladness."

Each YWR received a bucket of items donated by Mike Lindahl, Thrivent, JoNette Brogaard and the District YWR Committee (Ruby Prochnow, Marcia Lips and Barbara Angland). The bucket included the following items: a set of measuring

spoons, a spatula, a My Pillow, a piggy bank, a recipe with the ingredients for Artisan Bread, and dishcloths. An appropriate Bible verse was attached to each item.

"Jesus is the Bread of Life." The YWRs each received a bag of measured flour and a small container of measured yeast and salt, along with a recipe and instructions on how to bake their own loaf of bread. This followed the demonstration of "Baking Artisan Bread." Of course, there were loaves available to sample with homemade grape jam.

President Kathy presenting the YWRs with their YWR pins was a surprise for the ladies.

Popcorn, water and other snacks were available to the

YWRs throughout the convention.

Monday evening, the YWRs delivered plants to the outside doors of shut-ins of Our Redeemer. Tuesday morning, the YWRs called the shut-ins to inform them that they had a gift at their door from the Young Women. This was a great opportunity to bring joy to others.

The culminating activity for the YWRs was the Wednesday Morning Devotion, led by these young women. The gals vivaciously presented a very rousing skit entitled "The Full Armor of God." The convention attendees, as well as the YWRs, will always recall the 'Full Armor' as they meet Satan and his attacks.



Alyssa Boysen, Ruby Prochnow, Megan Reber



Rebecca Pumphrey



Rebecca Pumphrey, Sarah Laue

Mites In Action Speakers



At the convention, we received reports from C.R.O.S.S. Appeal, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Lutheran Island Camp, and Jacob Lemke, one of our scholarship recipients. Each told of how the mites help their projects and students. Jacob told of how appreciative he was for the assistance that he received each year as he completed his education. These reports help show how our simple mites make such a large difference in many peoples' lives.



Michelle Jenks & Carol VonSoosten

Michelle Jenks

Michelle Jenks brought greetings from the LWML Board of Directors. She showed a video greeting from Debbie Larson, the LWML President. Debbie encouraged the group to "Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid." Using stories from her life and props replicating the armor of God, her message was that fear is not from God. God gives us power, love, a calm mind, and self-control. Keeping our eyes on Jesus helps us navigate through the struggles in our lives.

Lutheran Island Camp - Stacy Lung, Executive Director

Stacy thanked the group for the Mission Grant monies that were used to provide CPR and lifeguard training as well as resources to help staff working with the children. She also shared a vision for facility upgrades. LIC is celebrating 70 years of ministry.



Sandra Trittin

C.R.O.S.S. Appeal - Sandra Trittin and Jan Kietzman

Sandra and Jan expressed appreciation for the Mission Grant funds through C.R.O.S.S. Appeal that helped to support the ministry to children in our Minnesota North LCMS Lutheran schools. Our continued prayers are requested and appreciated; it was shared that each of the schools have experienced an increase in enrollment.

Scholarships

Jacob Lemke has completed one year at Concordia University in Mequon, Wisconsin, studying for a major in Theological Languages as preparation for attending the seminary. He expressed appreciation for the scholarship help given to him by the LWML MNN North District. President Kathy thanked him for giving his speech in English.



Jacob Lemke

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Deaconess Stephanie Wilde

Deaconess Stephanie shared the different work that she and Deaconess Kelly perform each day for residents and staff of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. She thanked the LWML for our support through the mission grants.



Music Committee: Lori Salvhus, Angie Ratcliffe, Mary Ann Bell, Barb Heier



Brenda Haar



Lori Salvhus, Karena Lapolice, LuAnn Carow

Convention Music

Our LWML 30th Biennial Convention was blessed with beautiful music. Special thanks to our Music Committee; Lori Salvhus, Angie Ratcliffe, Mary Ann Bell, Barb Heier, and Gayle Mortenson (consultant).

Angie Ratcliffe directed the choir for opening worship. The first song was "Bless the Lord", from Psalm 102 and 103. The second choir piece was, "One Thing Have I Desired" sung Hinders in two parts. Mary Ann Bell was the accompanist. Song leaders were; Brenda Haar Janice on Tuesday and Karena Lapolice and LuAnn Carow, accompanied by Lori Salvhus, on Wednesday.

Officers Elected for the 2022-2024 Biennium

The following officers were elected to the LWML MN North District Board of Directors.

Serve the Lord with Gladness.

- Executive Vice President: Valerie Johnson
- Vice President of Communications: Gayle Ruesch Clark
- Recording Secretary: Terry Schoenborn
- Financial Secretary: Jan Carlson
- Regional VP - Arrowhead II: Jolene Henning
- Regional VP - Lakeland II: Teresa Klatt
- Regional VP - Park II: Karen Gorentz
- Pastoral Counselor Arrowhead Region: Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy



(L to R) Jan Carlson, Rev. Bruce Timm (outgoing), Valerie Johnson, Terry Schoenborn, Jolene Henning, Gayle Ruesch Clark, Karen Gorentz, Teresa Klatt, Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy

Ingatherings/Servant Events



Items collected for **The Perry Center:** 423 clothing items, 25 bibs, 2,539 diapers, 15 cans of formula, 3 baby bottles, 115 packages of baby wipes, 20 tubes of diaper cream, 41 containers of baby soap/lotion, 46 blankets, 24 toys/books, and \$75 in gift cards.



Items collected for **Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch:** 113 decks of playing cards, 255 pairs of socks, 860 items of school supplies, 3 backpacks, 97 bath/body products, 180 packages of toilet paper, tissues or paper towels, 2 generous boxes of LEGOS, 32 game balls plus 1 package of 100 small fun balls, \$155 in gift cards, and additional items came in that were donated to their thrift store.



Collected for **MOST Ministries:** 419 pairs of eyeglasses, plus cases for many of them.



The following items came in and were sent with Gene and Darlene Pasche for **Orphan Grain Train:** 100 pillowcase dresses and 12 or more plastic sleeping mats.



At the Servant Event the following items were completed and packed for sending: 450 bracelets for MOST Ministries and 100 cards for Phil's Friends.

I would like to thank my Human Care Committee who each were responsible for one activity. Sheri Adkins provided Orphan Grain Train Kits, patterns and handouts for the Exhibit table. She also sat there when available to answer questions. Bev Olsen handled the MOST bracelets by getting supplies, giving instructions and making bracelets. Sandra Trittin organized the cards for Phil's Friends and sent off the completed ones.

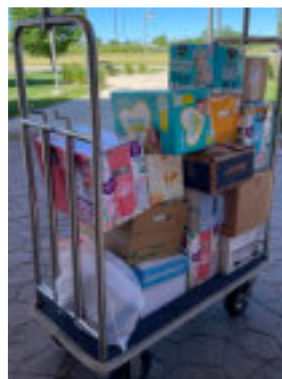
The following people willingly stepped up to help during the convention: Sandy Tiedemann and Ellen Strickler counted and boxed all the Ingathering items; Phyllis Sommers moved the Ingathering items from the collection carts to the Servant Room; Terry Schoenborn gave instructions and information about cutting and looping plastic for the mats; and Mary Scott stepped in as the crocheter. **Thank you, thank you, to a wonderful group of workers!!**



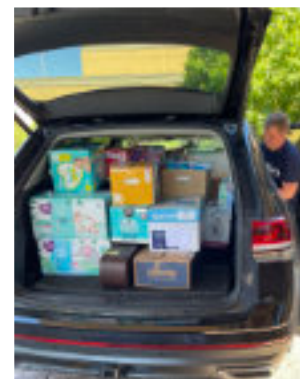
Volunteers making bracelets



Boxes for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch



Items for Perry Center



First van load of items

Bylaw Amendments

The convention body voted on the proposed changes to the bylaws. All of them were approved as presented. The updated bylaws will be available to download from the district website at www.lwmlmn.org.

Variety Show



Pastor's Pickers: Pastor Ratcliffe, Barb and Tim Heier



Pastor Ratcliffe, Karen Gorentz



Kathy Brandt as Katie Luther

The evening came together very nicely with 12 different acts and lasted around two hours.

We had a VARIETY of musical selections and monologues from various LWML members who shared their God-given talents with us. The evening started with the Bell Choir from St. Paul's, Perham and ended with Pastor's Pickers, also from St. Paul's, Perham.

We also enjoyed musical selections from Rebecca Pumphrey, who shared camp songs; Denise Carlson, who taught us "The Minnesota Song" and the Norski version; Brenda Haar, who shared a song she composed for her daughter; and the LWML Board of Directors who shared a rendition of "Jesus Loves Me." The audience was also treated to singing and guitar playing by Janice Hinders.

A monologue of Katie Luther was presented by President Kathy Brandt and Debbi Anderson shared her poem and story about the Loneliness of Sunday. We ended the night by singing the Doxology.

Throughout the night there were tears, laughter, singing, and fun! Many thanks to those who shared their talents, attended the event and encouraged your brothers and sisters in Christ! God Bless!



St. Paul's Bell Choir

Convention Wrap-up

The Board of Directors thank Nadine Drevlow and Esther Schlicker for serving as Co-chairmen of the Nuclei Committee for Lakeland I Region. They organized and directed the various committees to assure the convention met the needs of the attendees. The Courtyard by Marriot staff did a wonderful job, despite being short-staffed as most businesses are now.

As always, the Opening Worship Service was one of the most gratifying experiences.

The Bible Study, Keynote Speaker – Debbie Griffith, and mission grant selections were some of the women's favorites. Visiting the exhibit booths was informative and enjoyable, along with shopping at the LWML Store. Of course, the fellowship with other believers, renewing friendships and meeting new people is always enjoyable.

Now we start to make plans for the 2024 LWML Minnesota North Convention, which will be hosted by the Park II Region. Watch for information in the LWML Minnesota North District Newsletter.

LWML Zone Members with District Banners



Crookston Zone



Bemidji-Park Rapids Zone



Fergus Falls Zone



Wheaton Zone



St. Cloud Zone



Lake Superior Zone



Detroit Lakes Zone



Iron Range Zone



Banner Procession



Little Falls Zone



LWML MN North District Banner



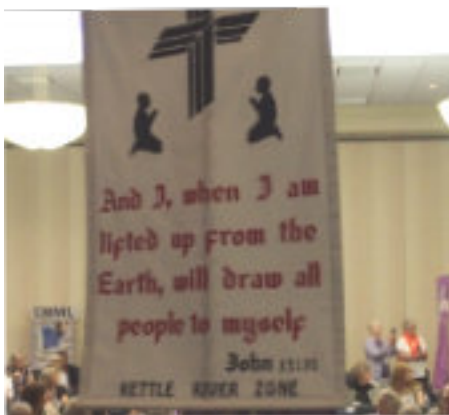
Long Prairie Zone



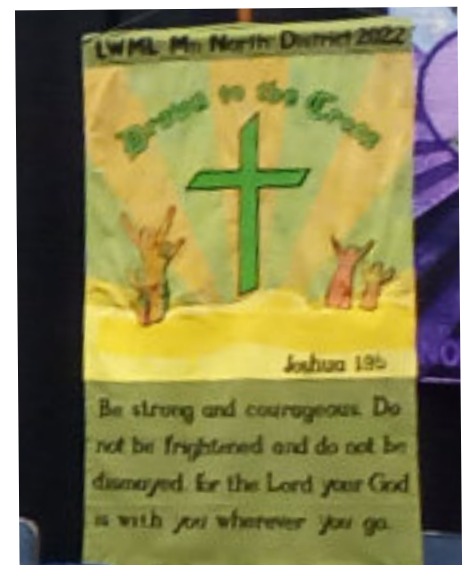
Wadena Zone



Montevideo Zone



Kettle River Zone



2022 District Convention Banner



Appleton Zone



Keynote Speaker Debbie Griffith (debbiegriffith.com)

2022 Convention Exhibitors



CLEF



Lamp Ministries



Main Street Living



Orphan Grain Train



Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch



Lutheran Bible Translators



LWML Gifts of Love

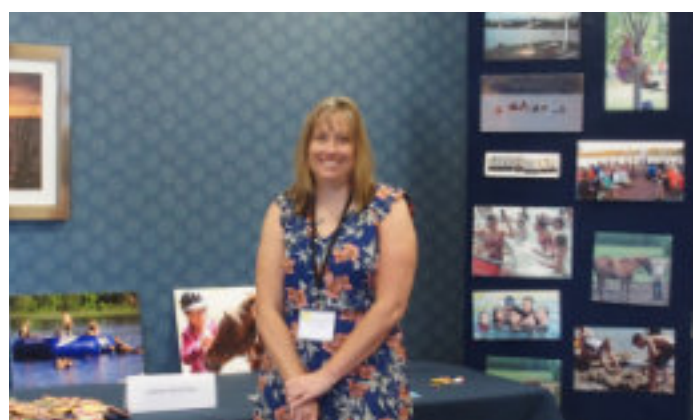


2022-2024 LWML District Board of Directors

Back Row L to R: Rev. Matthew Vrudny, James Wagner, Rev. Reed Stockman, Terry Schoenborn, Janice Carlson, Gayle Ruesch Clark, Karen Gorentz
 Middle Row: Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy, Kathy Steinmetz, Valerie Johnson, Jean Tester, Kathy Brandt, Marcia Wittenburg, Jolene Henning
 Front Row: Ruby Prochnow, Teresa Klatt, JoNette Brogaard, Mary Scott [not pictured, Carol Borchers]



Lutheran Church Extension Fund



Lutheran Island Camp



Lutheran Heritage Foundation



MOST Ministries