

### MINNESOTA NORTHERN LIGHT

### Lutheran Women's Missionary League Minnesota North District

Serve the Lord with Gladness! Psalm 100:2



### FALL 2011

### In this issue Nominating Committee. . . . . . . 2 Mission Grants Status..... 3 Scholarships. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 4 Structure..... 4 Young Women. . . . . . . . . . . 5 Heart to Heart Sisters. . . . . . . . 5 Leader Development...... 6 Memorials..... 6 Mission Advocacy & Grants. . . . 7 Human Care. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 8 Public Relations. . . . . . . . . . . . . 12 Find more Prayer & Praise Mite Calendars at www.lwmlmnn.org Board of Directors.......... 15



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 world.

Visit the LWML websites: www.lwml.org www.lwmlmnn.org

### President's Pen: "Change"

Out of all of the seasons, fall, to me, is the one season where we see the most change around us. Well, let me amend that. Growing up in California, I probably would not have made that statement. I say that, because in California the seasons do change, but it's more of a subtle thing, a drop in temperature is slight, the skies turn from vibrant blues to muted blues and grays, and the leaves do fall to the ground below.



Here in the Midwest, the visual change is more apparent: harvesting of crops, both in the fields and in people's gardens happens (sometimes quickly with the frost coming); leaves change to various hues before falling to the earth; weather can change in the course of a day from 'Indian Summer' to a cool blowing breeze that brings the frost in the morning.

None of this is news to any of you, I know. This type of change is welcomed by many people and by some, even celebrated. There is a thankfulness in the air for the beauty that God has surrounded us with, and the blessings He has bestowed on us through the bounty of the earth.

Now to the real reason I chose 'Change' as the topic for this article. Change is sometimes viewed as a 'bad' word in regard to the work within the LWML and the church.

Others view change as a 'scary' word. The thought may be, if the routine changes, the heritage will be lost. Or, if the way an event is held changes, it won't be as good or some may not attend.

These are valid thoughts, not ones I would necessarily dispute. However, ponder this quote and verse: "Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights" by Pauline R. Kezer.

### President's Pen continued ...

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit" Isaiah 11:1.

If there is never any change, growth cannot take place. This is an exciting time within the body of Christ. His mission is alive. And while the world may be changing (scary), His Word and Truth are not (Hallelujah!). "For I the Lord do not change" Malachi 3:6.

There are changes taking place within LWML. Names of committees and departments have changed, but the mission has not. (Read more about this in the Human Care article on page 8.)

In your fall packets, you will have an invitation to attend a special session at the 2012 MN North LWML Convention to learn more about the Heart to Heart Sisters program.

Discussion has been taking place to offer the Minnesota Northern Light as an eNewsletter, solely. While this change may feel uncomfortable, let me put your mind at ease. For those who like to read information on actual paper (I am one of those people), you can still do this. How, you may ask? By printing the newsletter out. What if someone doesn't have a computer or a printer to do this? Contact someone who does; this could be a fellow sister in Christ, a neighbor, or a grandchild. Ask the church Secretary to print the newsletter out for those who would like a hard copy.

The 2012 MN North LWML Convention will be here before we know it, June 25-27, 2012. Another change that will take place will be new officers on the district board. On behalf of the board and the nominating committee, we ask for your prayers and considerations to be on the ballot.

Finally, let me leave you with another promise from God's Word that He is changeless: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" James 1:17.

Cheryl Petersen President

### Read only if you are a busy woman ...

**B** - blessed beyond measure

U - unique, there is only one person like you

**S** - saved by the blood of Jesus

**Y** - yielding to be used whenever and where the Lord has need of you.

If this describes you, prayerfully consider submitting your name (or suggesting the name of a BUSY LWML sister) for one of the district officers being elected at the 2012 convention.

Open officer positions: President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Vice-President for Lakeland I, Regional Vice-President Arrowhead I, Regional Vice-President Park I, Circuit Counselor of Park Region.

Contact one of the Nominating Committee members listed below for information. The deadline for submission of names is February 1, 2012.

If elected, you will be in for a life-changing experience. The Lord never disappoints – try this and see for yourself.

### **Nominating Committee**

Karena LaPolice

karenalapolice@hotmail.com	763-234-2522
Carol Ann Sander	
jcsander@scicable.com	320-676-8374
Phllis Jastram	
phyllis.jastram@gmail.com	218-826-6305
Mary Schirm	
mjschirm@hotmail.com	320-289-2665
Theresa Warnsholz	
warnsholz@arvig.net	218-844-6372





### 2010-2012 Mission Goal Status

Projects	Goal	Previously Paid or Allocated	Paid or Allocated This Quarter	Balance
Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students	\$55,000	\$29,650	\$3,000	\$22,350
Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$10,000	\$2,500	\$0	\$7,500
Lutheran Island Camp, Financial Support for Staff Training	\$10,000	\$3,750	\$1,000	\$5,250
Food Bank at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	\$5,000	\$3,775	\$1,000	\$225
Orphan Grain Train	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$0	\$0
Children's Bibles for the People of SE Asia	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$1,500
Medical Clinic, Cap Haitien, Haiti	\$25,000	\$15,480	\$2,175	\$7,345
Food & Clothing Co-op, Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne	\$5,000	\$3,775	\$1,000	\$225
Production of Audiocassette Materials - Lutheran Blind Missions	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$500	\$2,000
Anyuak Ministry, Sauk Rapids, MN	\$5,000	\$3,975	\$1,025	\$0
TOTALS	\$135,000	\$77,905	\$10,700	\$46,395

All mite contributions should be sent to the Financial Secretary Marilyn Hiltel, 6850 Golden Spike Road, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379-9715.

### MN North Mite Goal

Once again the MN North LWML is nearing the end of another biennium. As a reminder, the 2010-2012 mite goal is \$135,000. As of September 30, a balance of \$48,885 remained to be funded. Summer mite giving tends to be slow and this summer has been no different. As we get back into the swing of fall activities let's remember to fill those Mite Boxes to overflowing, just like all the overflowing blessings our Savior showers on us.

### Ideas to encourage Mite giving

- ► Use "dime socks." Give members of your society/congregation a sock to fill with dimes for Mites during a month. Call them "Christmas Dimes" or "Valen-Dimes" or "Winter-Dimes."
- ► Collect a Mite offering at society events, zone rallies, retreats or workshops.
- Remind people that our Mite box takes all sizes of "coins" and "soft money."

"Train up a child in the way he should go ..." Prov. 22:6.

The 2011–2012 academic year has officially begun. Across our nation, students of all ages are busy learning new subjects, expanding on knowledge already gained, meeting new people, and being exposed to new ideas. For some it is their first time away from all that is familiar and comfortable as they settle into dorms many miles from home. This is an exciting time in their lives – and often scary.



I was watching the news the other evening they showed and students at one of the colleges with huge canvas carts loaded with their earthly all possessions moving from

their parent's cars to the dorms. The scene brought back vivid memories of taking our daughter to Concordia Chicago (River Forest) years ago and committing her into God's care and that of the College staff. We lived five hours away – a lot harder to leave her there than church camp. Knowing she was in God's hands gave us peace.

As I was reading one of our local papers, I came across an article titled, "Get your child ready for college." It was an interesting read – all about pep talks on inter-personal communications, sharing space in dorms, equipment needed, study environments and storage issues. Nothing was mentioned about the importance of connecting with Christian campus centers or locating a nearby church. That is like preparing to go on a camping trip with all the latest gear and leaving all nourishment resources at home in the cupboard.

Getting your children ready for college began when they were born, and continued on through their early childhood into their teen years through regular use of God's Word in their lives.

We can encourage our young people toward careers in Christian service by helping them attend campus visits to our synodical seminaries, colleges and universities. Go to www.lcms.org for information on careers in church work and links to the various Seminaries and schools.

Campus visitation dates for Concordia Seminary,

St Louis, are set for Oct. 6-8, 2011 and March 8-10, 2012. Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne dates are Oct. 20-22, 2011 (their spring dates are not yet posted). CTS, Ft. Wayne, is hosting a campus visitation event on Nov. 3-6, 2011, for college students to explore entering Christian vocations.

As members of the LWML in your local congregations, continue to reach out to our young people with words of encouragement, daily prayer and of course those always appreciated "care packages." Check out the previous issue of the Minnesota Northern Light for a listing of those who are being helped by your mites with scholarships this school year and pray for them "that your Word will produce fruit" in their lives.

Linda Jeske, Scholarships Chairman

Thank you to all zones Structure and societies who have been sending undates to their sending updates to their

bylaws. The committee is reviewing these and will be replying to each one this fall.

At the LWML Convention in Peoria, I heard some interesting facts:

- ★ The STRUCTURE of the LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE begins with "the national" organization known as Lutheran Women's Missionary League, or what we know as LWML.
- ★ The LWML is divided into 40 districts. We belong to the Minnesota North District.
- ★ The Minnesota North District has seven regions: Arrowhead I, Arrowhead II, Lakeland I, Lakeland II. Park I and Park II.
- ★ Each region is divided into two or three zones. There are 17 zones within the MN North District.
- ★ Each zone is made up of societies (they may also be called Guilds, Aids or Groups).
- ★ Each one of you is a very important individual in one of the 162 societies in the Minnesota North District and in the LWML.

Doris Weispfennig, Structure Committee Chairman



The Peoria convention this past summer had the most spirited discussion of bylaws I have ever witnessed at an LWML convention. The Board of Directors proposed a structure change and a lengthy and technical discussion followed. The convention process worked wonderfully, and the proposal was changed to something the voting body agreed upon.

The change was a realignment of departments, which is how the structure of the LWML works on the national level. How, you may ask, does this relate to the Young Woman Representatives (YWR) program? The YWR program has been a task force on the national level since its inception many years ago. The program has now become part of the mainstream of the LWML, along with the Heart to Heart Sisters program.

YWRs have a special page on the LWML website (*www.lwml.org*) where many resources and information exists targeted to younger women. Share this information with the young women in your congregation!

Friends into Serving Him® is still a task force at the LWML. It is only six years old and targeted to teens. As with the YWR program, resources exist on the LWML website, including details on forming a Teen LWML group.

The teens I talked to at the national convention were fired up about the LWML and ready to *Serve the Lord with Gladness*. If you would like more information on Friends into Serving Him®, please contact me. We are hearing there is a lot of interest in the district and we would like to know where this interest is. We can support you in your efforts to get women and girls of all ages involved in LWML. Reach me by email at *youngwomen@lwmlmnn.org*.

For those of you wondering about the district structure, the YWR committee has been more than a task force for many years and we do not anticipate a bylaws change related to the district YWR committee.

Preparations are underway for the Minnesota North District Convention and special events will be available for the younger women attending the convention. There were a few members at the national convention.

If you have a Teen LWML group at your church, or YWRs, invite these young women to our district convention. There will be events geared to teens and YWRs.



Lynnette Roshell Young Woman Representatives Chairman

### Heart to Heart Sisters

At the LWML convention in Peoria, Sheila Peterson from Cloquet, represented the MN North LWML at the first ever Heart to Heart Sisters District Leader Training.



This training took place prior to convention and there were activities that took place for these trainees and the Heart to Heart Sisters attendees during the convention.

This is an exciting program that encourages the mentorship and encouragement of reaching out to ALL women in the LCMS - specifically ethnic women.

There is a flyer included in the Fall Packets, which are being distributed at the Fall Rallies. Please make sure to post this and invite any and all women interested in this program to the get-together that will take place at the 2012 LWML MN North Convention at Breezy Point Resort.

### Resources available

Is your society aware of the number of resources that are available by downloading them? Check out www.lwml.org/resources/programhelps/index.php OR www.lwmlmnn.org/sketchesdevo.html.

### The value of an LWML mentor

This is a beautiful time of the year, when the world our Lord created displays all its glory in the majestic fall colors we can find all around us. Just as there is a variety in the colors we see displayed, there are a variety of leadership styles we can find being used within the LWML.

If you are considering finding someone to mentor and help you grow in your leadership skills, there is great value in finding someone to mentor you in the style of leadership you are most comfortable with. Although sometimes we are wiser to seek a mentor whose style challenges us and we may not at first be comfortable with, sometimes, we need to step out of our comfort zone in order to step into some of God's greater opportunities.

I have listed a few tips to think about when you are considering who you should ask to be your mentor. Consider your role within the LWML when choosing your mentor. Think about what characteristics you're looking for in a mentor. You may want to question some of your LWML sisters to find out what the prospective mentor is like. What is her communication and leadership style? What LWML officer positions has she held?

Ask your prospective mentor's friends and LWML sisters for their insights. To find a mentor on your own, identify someone you admire and respect. You can choose someone from your own society or someone outside of it, such as your zone or district. You can have more than one mentor.

A mentor will provide you with valuable:

- Inspiration: A mentor inspires you to perform better and shares her experience with you so that you can use it in your own role as a leader. Having a good mentor enables you to have a role model you can emulate in order to be successful in your work within the LWML and your faith walk with your Lord.
- 2. **Guidance:** A mentor will be honest and open with you about your leadership shortcomings, and give you tips and suggestions in areas you need to work on. She is responsible for guiding and correcting you if you are wrong. This will

- enable you to improve the quality of your leadership skills and get constructive feedback about your performance.
- 3. **Experience**: A mentor is always ready to share her personal knowledge and will help you avoid mistakes she has made in the past.
- 4. **Open communication**: You can discuss problems related to your leadership position with your mentor. You will also be assured of unbiased solutions to your problems, since a mentor is responsible for guiding you in the right direction, without any personal gain or prejudice.

Having a mentor in the LWML will have its share of rewards for you. The guidance, inspiration and confidence they give are irreplaceable. They can help you be the best leader you can be in LWML, and for your Lord.

If you are interested in getting more information about mentoring, please contact me. If you are looking for a mentor or would like to be a mentor, I would also be happy to assist you.

[(Some of the information above has been adapted from "The Value of a Mentor" by Katharine Hansen, Ph.D.]

Serving the Lord in Gladness, Lynn Lahd, Leader Development Chairman



- ★ Sparta, St. John's, in memory of Betty Weckwerth.
- ★ Immanuel, Parkers Prairie, in memory of Mildred Moske.
- ★ Immanuel, Parkers Prairie, in memory of Ethelwyn Briese.
- ★ Edna Eckness family in memory of Edna Eckness

Memorial and honor gifts should be sent to: LWML MN North District c/o Financial Secretary Marilyn Hiltel 6850 Golden Spike Road Sauk Rapids, MN 56379-9715

## Scholarships For Full-time Church Work Students - \$55,000

Scholarships are awarded each year on the basis of need, academic standing and college acceptance for those seeking a vocation in church work.



Financial assistance through LWML scholarships encourages students to pursue study at a Concordia of their choice in full-time church work with the added benefit of a Christian learning environment.

The future of the LCMS depends on those who will be proclaiming our risen Savior to those in the harvest fields. The Minnesota North District has been blessed as a result of these scholarships as some of the past recipients have received calls within our district after completing their required curriculum.

There are no restrictions as to how many years an individual can receive this support.

## Scholarships For Men Preparing For Ordination - \$10,000

Financial support is essential for educating men with God-given talents to proclaim the Gospel to all corners of the world. All people benefit from God's Word when it is preached in truth and purity.



God has given a special call to those who will be sharing the Gospel message of salvation. Many men entering the ministry face challenges of supporting a family, while also pay for housing, classes and books. Financial support is vital.

Through mites, the LWML can help support and prepare faithful servants in Jesus Christ to reach the lost and care for all.

### Short-term missions available

Lutheran Hour Ministries offers unique, shortterm volunteer opportunities for groups such as a congregation, district or even a group of friends! Teams work alongside local LHM staff and volunteers in a variety of hands on projects. Check it out at www.lhm.org/teams.

Alaska Mission for Christ needs both long and short-term volunteers to help share the Gospel in Alaska. Volunteers lead VBS, sports camps, do hammer and nails projects, and even live in villages and serve people with Jesus' love. Contact: ruthzellar@alaskamissionfor christ.org.

The organization, *Most Ministries*, offers a variety of mission opportunities. Check out their website at *www.mostministries.org*.

Dorothy Abrahamson Gospel Outreach Chairman

### Its' your choice

Many members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans have Thrivent Choice Dollars that can be directed to any Lutheran organization of their choice.

If you have Thrivent Choice Dollars available for you to direct, please consider designating those dollars to Lutheran Women's Missionary League Minnesota North District, Brainerd, Minnesota, by calling 800-847-4836 and saying "Thrivent Choice;" an operator will then assist you.

### **Human Care**

As fall sets in, the Peoria convention is still fresh in my mind. One important item of business that transpired at the convention concerned a name change. The 'Human Care Committee' on the national level, has been changed to 'Mission Servants Committee.' Different name, but still the same.

However, the LWML Minnesota North District has not voted to change the name on the district level. We will continue to serve our Lord under the heading of 'Human Care Committee.'

### Mission Servants at Peoria (formerly Human Care)

"Lord open my eyes, ears and heart to reach out with care and compassion to the needs you place in my path" (Matt. 25:42-44). This scripture verse was the inspiration for the Human Care Committee's exhibit hall display at the Peoria convention. The purpose of this committee, now named the Mission Servants Committee, is to provide resources to assist women as they care for the hurting and those in need while sharing the Gospel and love of Christ. The Mission Servants Committee also coordinates "Gifts from the Heart" in-gatherings for the national convention and other meetings.



The theme of the committee's convention exhibit was "Bee Christ's Care Bear-ers." The committee members shared smiles and hugs as simple reminders of how easy it is to show human care to others. They also offered ideas on how to share God's love.

- \*knitting, crocheting, listening, respecting
- \*sharing, walking, reading, visiting, witnessing
- \*touching, teaching, quilting, transporting, playing piano, singing
- \*sitting alongside, being quiet, encouraging, rocking babies
- \*babysitting, doing laundry, sewing, gifting, sharing gardens

There are many needs in your neighborhood and beyond. You will find it truly a blessing to honor Christ by serving others.

### Gifts from the Heart

October: Host a clothing drive with an emphasize on winter coats for those in need.

November: Plan a Thanksgiving Potluck for your congregation and others that are

alone.

Honor the Veterans in your congregation.

December: Sponsor an Angel Tree and help a local family or agency in your

community.

Remember a college student or military person that can't be home for

Christmas.

# Gifts of Ove

### Are you looking for a program or Bible study for Advent or Christmas?

I have the following available through our lending library. Contact me for more information.

- **♥** Advent Biblical Treasure Hunt
- **♥** Blessings from the Manger (Advent)
- **♥** Christmas in Our Lives
- **♥** Christmas Wrappings
- **♥** Candy Cane Christmas
- ♥ Christian Reading on the Twelve Days of Christmas

"If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother or sister in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in that person?" 1 John 3:17 NIV



## 52 Weeks of Giving Thanks and Doing Without Sharing Our Blessings with Others

Have you ever thought about how fortunate you are to live in a prosperous country? We take so much for granted. We have access to fast food whenever we want, stores to purchase items at the last minute, doctors to take care of our medical needs, homes to shelter us, blankets to warm us, air conditioners to cool us, and transportation to get to where we want to go, whenever we want. We have friends, family, and even pets to provide us comfort.

We have so much available that we often fail to realize what it would be like to not have these items we so often take for granted. Each week this year consider going without an item on the following list or giving thanks for the item and putting it in a pillowcase. At the end of the year, you will have 52 items plus a Bible to donate to a charity for someone who may need these items. You may choose to follow the order listed or pick your items at random. As an alternative, you may choose to pray for the person who may need the item you are to do without or are thankful for. The list includes (1) a task for you to do or meditate about and give thanks followed by (2) the item to add to your pillowcase.

WEEK	TASK	ITEM	IN BAG (✓)
1	Sleep without a pillow case	Pillow case	
2	Do without soap	Bar of soap or soft soap	
3	Drip dry after washing hands	Wash cloth or towel	
4	Brush teeth with your finger	Tooth brush	
5	Brush teeth without toothpaste	Tooth paste	
6	Go without combing your hair	Comb or brush	
7	Do not shampoo your hair	Shampoo	
8	Do not use lotion or perfume	Body lotion or perfume	
9	Do not use hairsprav or conditioner	Hairspray or conditioner	
10	Leave nails un-manicured	Nail file kit	
11	Do not look in a mirror	Mirror	
12	Wash clothes by hand without soap	Laundry detergent	
13	Cleanliness is next to godliness	Cleaning product	
14	Do not reach for a paper towel	Paper towels	
15	Don't use a tissue or handkerchief	Facial tissue or handkerchief	
16	Do not take pain relievers for aches and pains	Aspirin or Ibuprofen	
17	Do not use an adhesive bandage for small cut	Adhesive bandages	
18	Do not use ointment for bug bites	First Aid cream	
19	Do without clean underwear (Eww!!)	Underwear	
20	Praise God and his gift of Jesus	Cross or cross necklace	
21	Thank teachers for their guidance	Coloring book and crayons	

WEEK	TASK	ITEM	IN BAG (✓)
22	Think about children who go without a toy	Child's toy	
23	Think about a child without a diaper	Diaper or wet wipes	
24	Try to remember something without writing it down	Notepad, pens or pencils	
25	Do without a fan or air conditioning	Hand held fan	
26	Do without electricity	Batteries	
27	Do not drink bottled water	Bottle of water	
28	Do not use a scissors for cutting	Scissors	
29	Do not repair a split seam or button	Sewing kit or safety pins	
30	Give thanks that you have a place to put items	Purse	
31	Give thanks for your faith	Inspirational Card	
32	Go without breath mints or gum	Breath mints or gum	
33	Give thanks for your health	Vitamins	
34	Give thanks for women	Feminine products	
35	Do not use toilet paper	Toilet paper	
36	Walk without socks or shoes	Socks or shoes	
37	Leave facial hair on chin	Tweezers	
38	Do not use deodorant	Deodorant	
39	Do not pay attention to time	Watch	
40	Do not use lipstick or makeup	Lipstick or makeup	
41	Give thanks for cleanliness	Hand sanitizer	
42	Give thanks for men	Razor or shave cream	
43	Give thanks for your sight	Sunglasses	
44	Try to eat without utensils	Plastic utensils	
45	Do not eat for a day or so	Canned Food	
46	Give thanks for jobs and \$ in the bank	\$\$\$	
47	Do not eat at fast food restaurant	Fast food coupons	
48	Give thanks for pets	Pet treats or toy	
49	Go without coffee or tea	Coffee, tea, creamer or sugar	
50	Do not eat snacks	Cookies	
51	Do not eat chocolate	Chocolate bar	
52	Wear an old piece of clothing	Clothing (shirt, shorts, etc.)	

You can purchase most of the items at a dollar store, so it won't cost you much to make a big difference in someone's life.

## Thank you for your generosity.

### **Making Comparisons**

"Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else" Galatians 6:4 NIV [emphasis added].

Too often we compare ourselves with someone else in our possessions, our abilities and our actions.

We may be grateful for the old car as transportation until we see someone with a new car. We become envious; we are no longer thankful for what we have. We may even question why God gave someone else the car and not us. The question may be asked, "Aren't we deserving too?"

We may also compare our housing, employment, wages and many other things. Psalm 73:2-3 is an example of the results of envy: "But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked." Verses 12 and 13 go on to say: "This is what the wicked are like — always carefree, they increase in wealth. Surely in vain have I kept my heart pure; in vain have I washed my hands in innocence" (NIV).

However, in verses 21 and 22 the Psalmist recognizes the result of envy on his relationship with God: "When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you" (NIV).

Another thing we compare is the abilities God has given us. We want to be as pretty, as intelligent, as strong as someone else. We tend to look at things the world values, not what God values. God made each of us unique with a purpose for each one of us. "'For I know the plans I have for you.' declares the Lord" (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV). And He has given us abilities to fulfill His plans "to each one, just as He determines" (I Corinthians 12:13 NIV).

Lastly, we compare our actions with others. Christians may think that we are 'not as bad' as other people because we don't blatantly sin, and so excuse our sins of gossip, pride and anger. We fail to measure up to God's Holy standards. We forget that James 2:10 tells us that "whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it" (NIV).

God also tells us in Romans 3:23 that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (NIV).

We are more like the Pharisee in Luke 18:9-14 who thanked God for not making him like the tax collector. The tax collector acknowledged his sin and asked for mercy. Which one was forgiven?

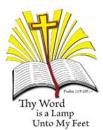
"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, and not for men" (Colossians 3:13 NIV). If we are working with all our heart, we will know we have done our best. We will not need to compare ourselves with anyone else.

No matter what we have, who we are and what we do, we are loved by God who sent His Son to pay the price for our sins. He forgives us when we are envious because we feel we are or have less than others and when we are prideful because we feel that we are or have more than others.

Mary Kuhnau, Christian Life Chairman

### 2011 LIC Retreat

What an exciting weekend at Lutheran Island Camp! Pastor Stauty led us in Bible study, showing the 'light' in God's Word is spiritual light.





Wanda Hall's presentation on MOST (Missions Opportunities Short Term) challenged us—WE can also go on a short-term mission trip. Wanda told us how God called her to

Him through LWML women.

We sang together and prayed together and went home refreshed and excited about *Serving the Lord* with Gladness.



Mark your 2012 calendar for the next Minnesota North District Retreat: August 10-12!



Hear & See!

As you begin planning your meetings for societies, zone and regional rallies for fall and winter, take a look at the LWML websites for information

and program suggestions: www.lwml.org and www.lwmlmnn.org. There is always a wealth of information at these resources to enrich your meetings and help you to plan your programs and rallies. Your Regional Vice-Presidents will be glad to help you plan to make your zone and regional rallies exciting and informational. They will also share the latest LWML information.

Coming in October is a new **DVD-based Bible Study**, "Your Strong Suit," based on Ephesians 6:10-18. Check the LWML website for details on this exciting new resource.

The new **Special Focus Ministries** information is on the LWML site. This is the new committee formed at the national LWML convention in June. There is new information on the Heart to Heart Sisters Committee, the Committee on Young Women, Friends into Serving Him and resources that are part of the Special Focus Ministries.

The **2012 LWML Minnesota North Convention** will be coming next June, held at the Breezy Point Resort. Make plans for you and your friends to attend this exciting gathering June 25-27, 2012.

**LWML Sunday** is coming. Order your information as soon as possible and use the many materials provided. Packets have been sent out and your group may use them to interest new members and provide information on the LWML to your congregation.

Janet Hasbargen Public Relations Chairman

### LWML selects theme for 2013 convention

- The 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention will be held June 27-30, 2013 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Theme: "Quenched! by the Water" The theme reminds each child of God that, in spite of constant change, God continually provides lifegiving spiritual blessings for all of His children who know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
- Scripture verse: [Jesus said:] "... but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life" (John 4:14).
- Convention goal statement: Quenched by Christ's redeeming grace, I am empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a wellspring of the Father's love.
- Convention objectives Convention attendees will:
  - Glorify the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
  - Drink deeply from His Word.
  - Share His overflowing love.

LWML President Kay Kreklau shared, "Planning for the convention in Pittsburgh is well underway. It is exciting to know that those attending the convention will have opportunities to be filled to overflowing through worship, Bible study, fellowship, and uplifting experiences that will help to strengthen them as they share Christ with others."



LWML MISSION GOAL 2011-2013 \$1,825,000



### Newsletter announcement

The *Minnesota Northern Light* newsletter will be distributed as an eNewsletter only, effective January 1, 2012. Paid subscriptions will be mailed out through the current expiration date. To subscribe to the eNewsletter, contact the Editor at *editor@lwmlmnn.org*, or download the newsletter by visiting the LWML MN North District website at *www.lwmlmnn.org*, then go to the "Publications" and "Newsletter" menu links.



## November 2011

## **Prayer and Praise Mite Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		All Saints' Day Praise God for the saints who have gone before us.	<b>2</b> Memorize a Bible verse today - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for Lutheran Blind Mission	Invite someone to worship with you	MNN Project Pray for seminary students
Daylight Savings Time Ends  Did you remember to set your clock back? - 50¢	7 Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for the ministry of the Orphan Grain Train	9 Thank God for those who serve in the military - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for students preparing for church work careers	Thank a veteran for service to our country	Praise God for the blessing of your community
Greet someone at worship today	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for Children's Bibles for SE Asia Ministry	Pray for our national leaders - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for medical mission in Haiti	Be thankful for a close sister in Christ.	MNN Project Pray for the staff at Lutheran Island Camp
Feast of Christ the King Friendship Week: Greet someone at worship today	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for the Food Bank at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Thank God for willing feet to follow Him. - 25¢	O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good!	MNN Project Pray for Anyuak Ministry of Sauk Rapids	MNN Project Pray for Food & Clothing Co-op at Ft. Wayne seminary
First Sunday of Advent  Prepare for God's gift of Jesus' birth	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	<b>29</b> Pray for children in your church	<b>30</b> Thank God for your family - 25¢			

LWML Minnesota North District



## December 2011

### **Prayer and Praise Mite Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				MNN Project Pray for Lutheran Blind Mission	Pray for those who are suffering during this Christmas season	MNN Project Pray for Anyuak Ministry of Sauk Rapids
Our hearts are raised in high expectation as we await our coming Savior	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for seminary students	One cent for each Christmas card you are sending this year	MNN Project Pray for students preparing for church work careers	Pray for families of military personnel who are separated from loved ones	Grow in your faith daily through His Word
Praise God for pageants & choir programs this Christmas season	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for the ministry of the Orphan Grain Train	God is Love - share it with someone today - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for medical mission in Haiti	Take a plate of Christmas goodies to someone homebound	MNN Project Pray for the staff at Lutheran Island Camp
Pray for a family from your church	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for Children's Bibles for SE Asia Ministry	Use your hands in willing service for Him today	If you shoveled snow before today - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for Food & Clothing Co-op at Ft.Wayne seminary	O holy night, the night of our dear Savior's birth
Christmas Unto us a child is born. Unto us a son is given.	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for the Food Bank at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	<b>28</b> Pray for missions worldwide - 25¢	29 Free-will mite offering	<b>30</b> Pray for youth in your church	New Year's Eve Thank and praise God for the gift of another year of grace

LWML Minnesota North District



## January 2012

## **Prayer and Praise Mite Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
New Year's Day Praise God for the gift of the new year	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for seminary students	Pray for the blind and visually impaired people 25¢	MNN Project Pray for Lutheran Blind Mission	Epiphany of Our Lord Thank God for your spiritual and material blessings	<b>7</b> Share God's love with a neighbor - 25¢
Praise God for those who share the ministry of music	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for LWML MNN board meeting today	Pray for those that are hungry - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for students preparing for church work careers	Pray for unbelieving family and friends	MNN Project Pray for the Ministry of Orphan Grain Train
Pray for the individual you sat near in church today	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for Children's Bibles for SE Asia Ministry	Help or encourage a busy Mom today - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for medical mission in Haiti	Pray for your Pastor and his family	MNN Project Pray for the staff at Lutheran Island Camp
Thank God for His Word that was heard today	Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	MNN Project Pray for the Food Bank at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis	Pray for those who need shelter - 25¢	MNN Project Pray for Anyuak Ministry of Sauk Rapids	Pray for the homebound members of your congregation	MNN Project Pray for Food & Clothing Co-op at Ft.Wayne seminary
Listen for the signs of God's presence	30 Pray with your LWML sisters at Noon	<b>31</b> Pray for children in your church				

LWML Minnesota North District

### **Executive Committee**



Cheryl Petersen
President
president@lwmlmnn.org
218-685-6218



Mary Kuhnau Executive Vice President and Christian Life Chairman christianlife@lwmlmnn.org 320-834-2135



Lynnette Roshell
Recording Secretary and Young Woman
Representative (YWR) Chairman
recordingsec@lwmlmnn.org
651-233-7226



JoNette Brogaard Corresponding Secretary correspondingsec@lwmlmnn.org 320-846-0984



Marilyn Hiltel
Financial Secretary
financialsec@lwmlmnn.org
320-387-2219



Marlys Knutson
Treasurer
treasurer@lwmlmnn.org
218-426-4301

### Pastoral Counselors



Rev. Don Stauty
Arrowhead Region
gloriadeipastor@gmail.com
218-742-1977 (O)
218-749-5541 (H)



Rev. Ronald Hobbie
Lakeland Region
sjtlparish@mvtvwireless.com
320-269-9229



Rev. Henry Koopmann
Park Region
oslutheranmcg@frontier.com
218-768-3198 (O)
218-768-3602 (H)

### Regional Vice Presidents



**Dorothy Abrahamson**Arrowhead I and Mission Advocacy & Grants (Gospel Outreach) Chairman gospeloutreach@lwmlmnn.org
218-885-2368



Lynn Lahd
Arrowhead II and Leader Development
Chairman
leaderdevelopment@lwmlmnn.org
651-245-6552



**Doris Weispfennig**Lakeland I and Structure Committee
Chairman
structure@lwmlmnn.org
320-554-3324



Janet Hasbargen
Lakeland II and Public Relations
Chairman
publicrelations@lwmlmnn.org
320-563-4962



Ellen Strickler
Park I and Human Care Committee
Chairman
humancare@lwmlmnn.org
218-281-5946



Linda Jeske
Park II and Scholarships Committee
Chairman
scholarships@lwmlmnn.org
320-594-3034

### Appointed Personnel



Kristin Olsen Editor editor@lwmlmnn.org 320-632-1773



Janet Miller Archivist-Historian historian@lwmlmnn.org 218-768-2882



James Wagner Webmaster webmaster@lwmlmnn.org 218-289-2457

Minnesota Northern Light c/o Kristin Olsen, Editor 506 - 4<sup>th</sup> Street SE Little Falls, MN 56345

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID Little Falls, MN 56345 Permit No. 58

The *Minnesota Northern Light* is published quarterly by the Minnesota North District LWML following the meeting of the Board of Directors in January, April, July, and October.

The deadline for articles in the *Minnesota Northern Light* are: March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15.

Please send your articles, information, and eSubscriptions to: Kristin Olsen, Editor <editor@lwmlmnn.org>

Phone: 320-632-1773

Download the *Prayer & Praise Mite* calendars at the LWML MN North District website:

www.lwmlmnn.org.



### Newsletter announcement

The *Minnesota Northern Light* newsletter will be distributed as an eNewsletter only, effective January 1, 2012. Paid subscriptions will be mailed out through the current expiration date. To subscribe to the eNewsletter, contact the Editor at *editor@lwmlmnn.org*, or download the newsletter by visiting the LWML MN North District website at *www.lwmlmnn.org*, then go to the "Publications" and "Newsletter" menu links.