



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

Greetings,

In the name of Jesus, the Lord of the Harvest!

The Mission Grant committee has been busy revising the Mission Grant proposal form. It is available to download from our district website, [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org) and will also be included in the fall packets, which will be distributed at the fall rallies. If you know of a mission that would benefit from the LWML mission grants, please share the application form with the organization. All mission grants forms will be due to Mary Scott, Mission Grant chairman on January 1, 2026. Start filling out those forms now before the busy holiday season starts.

Fall rallies are being planned by zones and regions. Themes are chosen and speakers have been contacted. Each zone or region has different ideas and information. You are encouraged to attend another zone or regional rally close to you and enjoy the fellowship, study of God's Word and inspirational speakers.

The mites that have been collected have funded many grants, but there is still close to \$35,000 that is needed to meet our goal of \$147,000 for the current biennium. You are challenged to increase your group and or individual donations by 25% to complete this goal.



The nominating committee will be meeting soon to find candidates for the various offices to be filled. Prayerfully consider putting your name on the ballot. Our district needs you to continue the good work of the LWML to bring Christ to all people.

Serving Him with you!



Kathy Brandt  
LWML Minnesota North District President

32<sup>ND</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION  
MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT  
*The Park Event Center, Waite Park, MN*  
*June 22-24, 2026*



*John 15:11*

*"These things I have spoken to you,  
that my joy may be in you,  
and that your joy may be full."*

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**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](mailto: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](http://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.



Mustard Seed Devotions can be sent directly to your email daily. To sign up visit: [www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions](http://www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions).

## Memorials & Honorariums

Memorial gifts and honorariums should be sent to the Financial Secretary, Jan Carlson, 408 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave S, Princeton MN 55371. Phone: 763-631-0399 (C), [financialsec@lwmlmnn.org](mailto:financialsec@lwmlmnn.org).

The financial remittance form can be downloaded from the resources page of our district website at [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org).

### Memorials and Honorariums July 2025 to October 2025

Kathy Pavlicek from Sauk Centre, Zion  
Jen Lund from Delores Larson  
Marv Roxstrom from June Roxstrom  
Lois Grote from Karen Cameron  
Delbert Schroeder from Corles Rainer  
Lois Sjobeck from Del & Penny Noetzelman  
Delbert Schroeder from Kathy Brandt  
Bette Menze from Otter tail, St. John's  
Lois Sjobeck from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel  
Beth Wilde from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel  
Diane Riedel from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel  
Rodger Wallner from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel  
Bill Blommer from Corles Rainer  
Dennis Schimming from Mora, Zion  
Ardella Triebenbach from Detroit Lakes, Zion  
Irene Williams from Fisher, Trinity  
Ella Vaunt from Sally Grabuski  
Gladys Wagner from Marilyn Hittel  
Marv Roxstrom from Delores Larson

### Upcoming Event Dates:

Dec 1	Zone Reports due to District Officers
<b>2026</b>	
Jan 1	Mission Grant proposals due
Jan 13	January Board meeting, Zion Lutheran Church in Alexandria
Jan 15	Christian Life forms due! Send to the District Christian Life Chairman

32<sup>ND</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION  
MINNESOTA NORTH DISTRICT



*John 15:11*

**THEME:** Let His Joy be Your Joy!

**VERSE:** *These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. (John 15:11)*

**DATE:** June 22-24, 2026

**LOCATION:** The Park Event Center, Waite Park, MN

**HOSTED BY:** Arrowhead II Region



*Rev. Kris Whitby*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Rev. Kris Whitby

*Serves as Assistant to the the President-Mission and Ministry for the Northern Illinois District. He was a parish pastor for 24 yrs, hosted a radio talk show "Faith Talks," and has written many resources for the LWML including Mustard Seed Devotions, Prayers services and the "At Table with Jesus" Bible Study.*



**BIBLE STUDY LEADER:** Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy

*Pastor at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MN*



**ENTERTAINMENT:** Great River Resonance

[greatriverresonance.org](http://greatriverresonance.org)

*The premier community handbell ensemble located in the greater St. Cloud, MN area.*

For more information visit the District website: [www.lwmlmnn.org](http://www.lwmlmnn.org)

### Human Care

Jean Tester, Chairman  
humancare@lwmlmnn.org

*"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."*  
(Hebrews 10:24)



As we consider our Ingathering offerings for the District Convention in June of 2026, may we be 'spurred on' to reflect the joy we have in the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### 2026 Convention Ingatherings

We will be collecting items for the following two organizations, Terebinth Refuge and Place of Hope Ministries, which are located in the St. Cloud area.



**Terebinth Refuge**

[terebinthrefuge.org](http://terebinthrefuge.org)

A Christ centered resource offering hope, healing, freedom and a safe place for sexually exploited and trafficked women.

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Paper plates
- Napkins
- Canned goods
- Cleaning supplies
- Dehumidifiers
- Clock radios

### 2026 Convention Update

Information has been sent out to the Little Falls, Rum River, and St. Cloud Zones explaining what needs to be done at the convention next year. There will be sign-up sheets at the Fall Rallies/Joy Shop.

The jobs that are done behind the scenes are very important for the success of a convention. But prayer is the number one job! Please pray for the convention planning as it develops, that all will be done to the glory of God!

Marilyn Hiltel (320) 309-8122  
bmhiltel@jetup.net

Corky Rainer (320) 293-2082  
carainer@frontiernet.net



**Place of Hope Ministries**

[placeofhopeministries.com](http://placeofhopeministries.com)

Offering support and services because of homelessness, poverty, addiction, alcoholism and other crisis.

#### *\*Items most needed*

- \*Towels – bath and hand
- \*Wash cloths
- \*Twin sheet sets
- \*New pillows
- Personal care items
- Cleaning supplies:
  - Bleach
  - Disinfectants
  - Window cleaner

Murphey's oil soap  
Paper towels  
Toilet paper  
Coffee pots  
Sets of silverware  
Dish sets and glassware



**Scholarships**

Pam Stauty, Chairman  
scholarships@lwmlmnn.org

**LWML MN North District**

The application deadline for scholarships is still in the future, but it is not too early to begin encouraging those who will be attending LCMS universities and seminaries to be aware of the process.

Scholarships through the LWML Minnesota North District are available to members of LCMS congregations within the District attending or planning to attend one of the LMCS Concordia's or one of the two seminaries in preparation for full-time church work. The eligible universities include:

- Concordia University, Ann Arbor;
- Concordia University, Irvine;
- Concordia University Wisconsin;
- Concordia University, Chicago;
- Concordia University, St. Paul;
- and Concordia University, Nebraska.

The eligible seminaries are; Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne.

Full-time church work includes Diaconess, Church school teacher, Director of Christian Education, Director of Christian Outreach, Director of Parish Music, Director of Family Life Ministry, and much more. The office of pastor is also included, of course.



The deadline for scholarship applications is May 15, 2026. Eligible students are encouraged to visit the LWML MN North District website for specific information and are encouraged to start the process early. Information can be found at [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org). Click on the scholarship link on the committee menu for scholarship information. Seminary students should also be aware of potential scholarships available through the LCMS Minnesota North District.

Additionally, each university within Synod has a very limited number of grants available for students. Interested students should contact the university that they will be attending for more information.



The Synod's emphasis on recruitment of pastors, "Set Apart to Serve," suggests that young men be encouraged to enter the ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Congregational member support and encouragement at a young age is a factor in many men entering the seminary.

More information regarding "Set Apart to Serve" is to be found at [lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve](http://lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve). An emphasis on recruitment of young men for the office of pastor from the Minnesota North District should be every congregation's goal.

The Scholarship Committee will be seeking increased funding for seminarians as part of the mission grant process voted at the upcoming 2026 convention.

Scholarship grants, as are all LWML MN North District's mission programs, are supported through MITES.

**Mission Grants**

Mary Scott, Chairman  
missiongrants@lwmlmn.org

**Mission Grants Report**

A total amount of \$24,983 in Mites for LWML MN North grants was available this past quarter. The Board of Directors approved the payment of grant allocations as follows: DOXOLOGY - \$10,575 Paid In Full; Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Physical Wellness for At-risk Children - \$7,575 Paid In Full; Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination - \$2,000; Scholarships for Full-Time Church Work Students - \$8,000; St. Paul's Lutheran School Perham - \$700; Swaddling Clothes, Redeemer, Aurora - \$4,100; Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Providing Hmong Lutheran Books - \$2,033 Paid In Full! The chart below details the current balance remaining of \$34,917 for the 2024-2026 biennium.

	<b>MISSION GRANTS FOR THE 2024-2026 BIENNIUM</b> (Balance as of October 16, 2025)	<b>GRANT GOAL</b>	<b>PREVIOUSLY PAID</b>	<b>PAID THIS QUARTER</b>	<b>BALANCE REMAINING</b>
Grant 1	Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$8,000	\$6,000		\$2,000
Grant 2	Scholarships for Full-Time Church Worker Students	\$32,000	\$24,000		\$8,000
Grant 3	C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$20,000	\$11,025		\$8,975
Grant 4	DOXOLOGY – Pastoral Care and Well-being	\$15,000	\$4,425	\$10,575	Paid In Full
Grant 5	Physical Wellness for At-Risk Children - Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch	\$15,000	\$7,425	\$7,575	Paid In Full
Grant 6	St. Paul's Lutheran School, Perham, MN	\$17,127	\$10,225	\$700	\$6,202
Grant 7	Immanuel Lutheran School, Walker, MN	\$10,000	\$6,325		\$3,675
Grant 8	Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Elk River, MN	\$9,840	\$7,750		\$2,090
Grant 9	Swaddling Clothes, Redeemer, Aurora, MN	\$15,000	\$6,925	\$4,100	\$3,975
Grant 10	Lutheran Heritage Foundation-Hmong Lutheran Books	\$5,033	\$3,000	\$2,033	Paid In Full
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$147,000</b>	<b>\$87,100</b>	<b>\$24,983</b>	<b>\$34,917</b>

**2026 CONVENTION: Submitting A Mission Grant Proposal**

**STEP 1:** Obtain a copy of the official Mission Grants application form the District website at [www.lwmlmn.org](http://www.lwmlmn.org).

Located on the Resources and Mission Grants Committee web page.

**STEP 2:** Complete the form providing detailed information about the grant and persons or organizations responsible for its implementation.

**STEP 3:** Note: *In certain circumstances it maybe necessary to obtain approval from the group submitting the proposal before*

*the grant process may proceed.* If you have any questions please contact Mary Scott by phone (320) 351-6804 or by email at [missiongrants@lwmlmn.org](mailto:missiongrants@lwmlmn.org).

**STEP 4: Sending Mission Grant Proposal Information**

- Email** the application form and all information to Mary at: [missiongrants@lwmlmn.org](mailto:missiongrants@lwmlmn.org).
- Include** 5-10 digital pictures (JPEG or TIFF format), images, videos, graphics or logos of your proposal.
- Remember:** The email must be sent by January 1 in the year of an LWML MN North District biennial convention.

## Young Women

Ruby Prochnow, Chairman  
youngwomen@lwmlmnn.org

### The Royal Dinner Party

My husband and I recently hosted a dinner party at our house. Our guests were special to us, and we wanted to serve them the best food, have our home looking its best, and have the dining room table looking its best. We did have a beautiful evening with our special food and friends.

As I look back at that beautiful evening and the preparations we made to make it such a lovely and much appreciated evening, I thought of our Lord Jesus and how He will host the perfect feast and day for the special time when we are welcomed into His home – OUR HEAVENLY HOME. He knows us and knows how special we are to Him. He will serve us the very best, and the mansion will be the best. In fact, He promises us in Rev. 21:4. *“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away”* (NIV). That will truly be a perfect home, in the mansion to feast with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

This gives us a picture of the future. The Kingdom of God will give us bliss and peace (the menu) eternally. All the present world’s suffering and pain will be gone. God (the perfect host) will be with us (His special guests) and His divine presence will be the peace and tranquility which will be permanent, not for a temporary space of time, as if our dinner party lasted only ONE evening.

He will be present with us even as He is here on earth with His children. He gives us such beautiful peace and tranquility, but living in this broken world, it is not permanent. He offers this peace daily. It’s enriched by studying His word, participating in Christian fellowship, praising Him in thanksgiving and worship, praying, and honoring Him.

LWML gives all women of the LCMS church the opportunity to do just that: Serving the Lord with Gladness. Share that gladness with all your sisters in Christ.

Ruby Prochnow  
Young Women Chairman

Food insecurity is a bigger issue in Moorhead than we realized. We had the homeless liaison from Moorhead Public Schools speak to our Bible Study group one Sunday in September. Our LWML from Our Redeemer had decided to get involved with this mission. We met in October and again in November and prepared meals and protein balls. These meals are brought to the Career Academy in Moorhead where students can get them.



In the kitchen preparing some cooked meals. One of the meals was Tator-Tot hot dish. Becky Schmidt is on the left, Jennifer Bond is on the right with her back to the camera. Linda Pederson is at the stove.

## Leader Development

Kathy Brandt, Interim Chairman  
leaderdevelopment@lwmlmnn.org

## LWML Vision Statement

The LWML is the leading group for LCMS women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness.

Women in congregations may not be familiar with LWML. They may not feel comfortable in attending a group event but yet they would like to be a part of the LWML mission to serve the Lord with gladness.

Welcome her by introducing yourself and inviting her for a cup of coffee. Ask her to attend your next LWML group event. Offer her a ride for support and encouragement. Invite her to attend your Bible studies for spiritual inspiration. Introduce her to other group members to make her feel a part of the LWML family.

Put together a packet of LWML resources to share. The packet may contain such things as the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly magazine, information about your group, LWML brochures and a Mite Box with information explaining mites and how they fund district and national mission grants.

Some women may find it difficult to attend regular group events. Encourage her to volunteer in LWML activities, a mission project or a community outreach project. Engaging her in activities will give her opportunities for serving, fellowship and mentoring.

Continue to share information with her and keep her current with LWML events that are happening. Encourage her to ask questions and to check the LWML website at [lwml.org](http://lwml.org) for current information and inspiration.

## Ideas for a New LWML Member

Deliver a welcome basket to women who are new to LWML. Use the visit as an opportunity to show you care. The basket could include current LWML gifts, information about your group, food gift, or small plant.

## Inviting Women to Become Involved

Present new mothers, college and confirmation students, or new brides with items available from the LWML Store. Encourage everyone to sign up for online Mustard Seed Devotions, join the LWML Facebook page, and Twitter.

Invite confirmation students to your LWML group event and have your district LWML Young Woman speak to them becoming involved in LWML.

The bottom line is to care personally about each woman as Jesus cares for her.

*"So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us" (1 Thessalonians 2:8).*

All LWML items can be found at [www.lwml.org/shop](http://www.lwml.org/shop).

(Replacement for "Welcoming New Members")  
Leadership Development Committee 2018  
Published by Lutheran Women's Missionary League



**2026 Prayer Service**  
Coming Soon!

[lwml.org/prayer-service](http://lwml.org/prayer-service)



**Christian Life**

Valerie Johnson, Chairman  
[christianlife@lwmlmnn.org](mailto:christianlife@lwmlmnn.org)

Christian Life's task is to encourage women in their spiritual journey, by providing them the tools for meetings and events with Bible studies and skits, plus much more. Please visit [lwml.org/all-spiritual-growth](http://lwml.org/all-spiritual-growth) for the many resouces available from the LWML.

The MN North District keeps you informed through the District website [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org) and our new Facebook page [www.facebook.com/people/LWML-MN-North-District/61574801807883/](https://www.facebook.com/people/LWML-MN-North-District/61574801807883/).

I encourage you to send your stories and events to the Communication Committee [vpcom@lwmlmnn.org](mailto:vpcom@lwmlmnn.org) and the newsletter Editor [editor@lwmlmnn.org](mailto:editor@lwmlmnn.org). To share on Facebook, send your photos or events to [dcegreenfield@gmail.com](mailto:dcegreenfield@gmail.com). Remember to add names of places and people.

The annual LWML Women Retreat was held at Lutheran Island Camp August 8-10, 2025 with 37 women attending. There were 6 first time attendees. The retreat provides time for your spiritual growth, fellowship with new and old friends and hearing the good news of our Savior Jesus Christ. Rev. Jake Gillard led Bible studies and of his mission trips to Africa. Our theme was from 2 Peter 3:18 **"Growing In God's Grace"**. Rev. Gillard spoke on how Grace is unique and the uniqueness in GRACE. **G**od's **R**iches **A**t **C**hrist's **E**xpense.

*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2 Peter 3:18)*

Fall brings regional Fall Rallies, watch for your regions rally and plan to attend for your spiritual growth.



The LWML MN North District convention will be held in St Cloud, MN on June 22-24, 2026 at the Park Event Center in Waite Park, MN. The theme for the convention is "Let His Joy Be Your Joy" based on John 15:11. More information to come.



*This group of ladies are making protein balls. Working at this table from left to right: Lois Niewoehner, Kathy Kruppich, and Pat Puppe.*



*Making more protein balls. On the left is Diane Laffen, Pat Puppe in the background and Darlene Ziegler*

**Structure**

Karen Gorentz, Chairman  
structure@lwmlmnn.org

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).*

As women, God made us so we would nurture and care for one another. We share compassion for each other in times of distress, in times of need, and in times of chaos. God gave us all our talents to serve each other and show His love.

For decades, women have shown a love in serving the Lord through the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. They have used their Mite money to show God's love in marvelous ways through funding numerous mission grants throughout the world, both in their districts and at the national level.

The reach simply goes farther than that, however. Trinity Lutheran Church in New York Mills, Minnesota, has signs as you exit their parking lot stating, "You are now entering the mission field." Have you ever thought of yourself as a missionary? Gary Thies validates this at Mission Central! Tell people about Jesus and his love!

The Lutheran Women in Mission are to "...Serve the Lord with Gladness" as we work as one cohesive unit. Our bylaws govern us through the process and set boundaries that otherwise may not have been followed. These are rules that guide us in procedure and offer legal stability, often referring to Robert's Rules of Order as the main governance. However, these 'rules' can be changed by the majority, and should, when the governance of the organization does not conform to the bylaws. Working together as a cohesive group for His Kingdom should be the theme throughout these bylaws.

Perhaps your group or zone is facing challenges of membership, you are trying new things to get younger women with families involved, or your combining activities for the fall; resources are available to help you online at [lwml.org](http://lwml.org) or [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org).

Feel free to also reach out to your zone and district representatives for tips and help, but most importantly, keep Jesus close as you help show the world His love for all.



**Web Links**LWML MN North District [www.lwmlmnn.org](http://www.lwmlmnn.org)LWML: [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)**Board of Directors****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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