

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

60 th Anniversary	LWML MN NORTH DISTRICT
SON-SHINE CHRONICLE	
31 st Biennial Convention	June 3-5, 2024

President's Article

Greetings Dear Sisters in Christ!

The 31st Biennial Convention of the LWML Minnesota North District was held June 3-5 at Cragun's Resort near Brainerd. Two hundred fifty eight participants were registered. The theme was "Walking as Children of Light" based on Ephesians 5:8, *for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.*

The delegate assembly approved a \$147,000.00 Mission Grant goal for the 2024-2026 biennium. We pray that God will put this goal on our hearts so that the grants may be fully funded. The twelve grants approved are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please keep the new officers on the District Board in your prayers as we move forward. We elected three new Regional Vice Presidents, a corresponding secretary, a treasurer and a new Park I Region Pastoral Counselor. You can find their names and offices listed in this newsletter.

The theme was evident as we heard speakers, sermons, Bible studies, songs and even the decorations and favors we received. Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy presented two sessions of Bible Study that encouraged us to equip ourselves to face our problems, navigate through this difficult life and all the false teachings in the world. We are to use the light that God has given us to bring hope and healing to the lost everywhere.

Katie Schuerman spoke to us about living a life that shines Gods light in all that we do. She related personal experiences and shared her beautiful singing voice with us throughout the presentation.

While at the convention she visited with as many as she could, showing us her delightful personality as she got to know us.

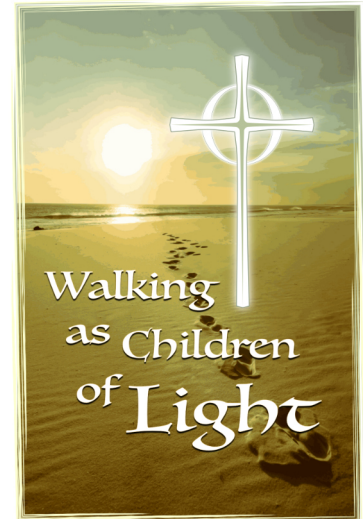
All the breakout speakers were excellent. We were so fortunate to be able to secure each speaker. We heard about Parish Nurses, a topic unfamiliar to many, from Mary Scott.

Caleb Monson revealed to us the many dangers involved with Human Trafficking. Rev. Mark Peske helped us to understand how past experiences can be the source of issues we deal with later in life. Rev. Rick Jones shared stories from Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch that further explained the work that is done there.

Our Mites in Action speakers, Scholarship recipients, and YWRs shared their experiences and their gratefulness for the funding the LWML gave them.

We greeted old friends and made many new friends as we sisters in Christ spent time together. What a blessing this convention was. Thank you to all who attended, shared your talents, and helped to make this convention possible. Now the work begins for the next biennial convention in 2026!

Praise God for an inspirational and encouraging convention!



LWML MINNESOTA NORTH 2024 DISTRICT CONVENTION



Kathy Brandt
LWML MN North District President
president@lwmlmnn.org

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Memorials & Honorariums

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

The financial remittance form can be downloaded from the resources page of our district website at lwmlmnn.org.

April 2024 to July 2024

In memory of...

In memory of Sheryl Freudenberg from Parkers Prairie, Immanuel

In memory of Nancy Schmidt from Alexandria, Good Shepherd

In memory of Bud Ellingson & in honor of Judy Ellingson from Jean Tester

In memory of Judy Langhorst from Carol Westendorf

In memory of Lois Dale from Lloyd & Delores Larson

In memory of Eugene Wagner from Deborah Anderson

2024 Upcoming Events

Aug. 9-11 LIC LWML Retreat

Sept.-Nov. Fall Zone Workshops

Sept. 15 *Minnesota Northern Light* Fall Issue articles due

Oct. 8 BOD Meeting

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.

Christian Life

Valerie Johnson, Chairman
christianlife@lwmlmn.org

Light in the Darkness

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth (Psalm 121:1-2).

Coming off of the LWML Convention “Walking as Children of Light” we need the Light in the Darkness. This comes from a Mustard Seed Devotion I was reading the other night.

The hill behind my house, not grand by mountain standards, is a challenge for my legs and lungs. One dreary fall morning when my mood matched the weather, I was sitting at my kitchen table staring out into the backyard. Suddenly I was awed by fire in the treetops on the hill. The sun had broken through the clouds and its rays turned the trees to a brilliant orange that blazed against the black sky. It lasted only a few minutes, but what joy filled my heart as my eyes feasted on the beauty!

A greater joy came from remembering the One who made the hill, the trees, and the dark gloomy morning with its spark of beauty. Our merciful God is still in charge. The touch of His love turns darkness into light.

Time spent praying, praising God, and reading His Word helps me remember that though my days are not always sunny and fun, God is with me. His beauty, love, and mercy surround me. When my spirits start to sag, I look to my hill – or better yet, climb it. I find myself praising God for this bit of creation He has given me.

We experienced the same things at convention. A brilliant sunrise for the Light Walk Mite Walk, Bible studies, praying and praising God. Hearing about His wonderful Light in this world of darkness.

The photos to the right are some of the convention exhibit stations.



Leader Development
Deb Anderson, Chairman
leaderdevelopment@lwmlmnn.org



Additional leadership information can be found at:
www.lwml.org/developing-leaders

Attributes of a Leader

Confidence in Christian leadership is being grounded in the Word.

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near (Hebrews 10:24–25).

No two groups of people have the same abilities because they are made up of unique individuals, each with their own set of God-given gifts. God has placed them together to achieve the plans that He has made for them. However, there are certain qualities that can be helpful in every effective leader:

Listening to and learning from others in your group can bring about meaningful discussion that could turn a good idea into a plan of active service. *Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent (Proverbs 11:12).*

Encourage others to use their talents and help channel them to where they are most effective within the group. *Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11).*

An agreeable attitude will go a long way in keeping a discussion moving and finding a successful compromise when necessary. *If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all (Romans 12:18).*

Devote time to prayer. Pray for the guidance

God has promised to send, listen for His instructions, and move forward expecting Him to be there with you. *Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2).*

Enthusiasm in your service to the Lord will set an energetic example for your group. When your energy is lagging, explain to your group what you are feeling and allow them to serve and support you. Don't rob them of an opportunity for service. *doing the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, (Ephesians 6:6b-7).*

Rejoice in your role as leader. God has placed you in this position for a reason and He will not abandon you. He has planned your life down to the smallest detail and will walk with you every step of the way. *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thessalonians 5:16–18).*

Pray for and develop as many of these qualities as possible within yourself. Look for other leaders in your group with strong leadership qualities different from your own; mentor them and let them lead with you. Together your group can serve the Lord with gladness.

God's Blessings,

2021–2023 Group and Leader Development Committee Members: Christina Bean, Elaine Engelman, Jennifer Gierke, Brianne Stahlecker, Chairman, Marie Chow, Vice President of Organizational Resources, advisory

Structure

Karen Gorentz, Chairman
structure@lwmlmn.org

The Board Thanks You!

Board Dinner – The board dinner was attended by all board members and Guest, Brenda Piester (National LWML Recording Secretary). Board members brought items for pot-luck (which was very hearty) and a meeting following the dinner. Board members and guests then packed folders and bags for registration.

Singing - Janna Kietzman, Holly Zubke, Lori Langton and Cindy Ungerecht (Musical Team at Immanuel Walker Church & School) shared their musical stylings with the convention body throughout the convention (pictured to the top right). We thank Janna and her team! What a wonderful way to start out each business meeting and praise the Lord! Pictured middle right are members of the choir.

Entertainment - Tuesday Night entertainment was by Rev. Matthew Meyer who is pastor from Beautiful Savior in Callaway, MN. He sang a selection of songs that he shared with us. Rev. Meyer was accompanied by James Wagner from Fisher, MN (pictured bottom right). Thomas Johnson and Alfred Boldt provided a wonderful selection of songs for the Meet & Greet the Candidates Reception. Thank you Thomas and Alfred for your time and energy in providing music for our convention.

Silent Auction - Thank you to all the individuals and groups who donated items for the Silent Auction at this year's Biennial Convention. The LWML MN North District was very blessed to have 119 lots that brought in a total of over \$3,900! This money went to help offset expenses of the convention. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Amendments - Two bylaw amendments were passed at the convention this year.

- The new mission grant submission deadline will be January 1 of the MN North District Convention year. Please be sure to mark your calendars now. You may do the research now and compile information for organizations you may be passionate about. The forms are available online and may be downloaded in the fall of the year before the convention. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Scott, who is the Chairman of the Mission Grants Committee.
- Secondly, some house-keeping was done to define the Human Care Chairman, as an appointed position and a non-voting member of the board.

The new updated bylaws of the LWML MN North District can be found on the website, or from your Regional Vice President.



Scholarships

Pam Stauty, Chairman
scholarships@lwmlmnn.org

Scholarship recipient Mark Langton graciously spoke on Wednesday morning of the convention. He and his wife attended the entire convention working at the Fort Wayne Seminary Food and Clothing Co-op booth.

He was eager to thank us for supporting him in his studies through our grants. He explained the unique aspects of studying at a Lutheran seminary, learning to carefully define the difference between Law and Gospel at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. Mark is preparing for vicarage this year. The Minnesota North District Lutheran Women in Mission are proud of him and our other scholarship recipients.

Report submitted by Teresa Klatt,
Outgoing Scholarships Chairman



Pictured left is the Crookston Zone Delegation:
Back Row: L-R: Phyllis Sommers, Pastor Bruce Blocker, Pat Sakrismo Kari Aanenson, Linda Laue, Melodie Hobbie
Middle Row: Jean Tester, Carol Salvhus, Holly Blocker,
Front row, seated: Lori Salvhus, Kathy Brandt, Hannah Brandt, MaryAnn Bell, Terry Schoenborn

**Convention Bible Study Summary
By Jan Carlson, Financial Secretary**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy, currently serving First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, MN, was our Bible Study leader. His first session, “What is Light and what is Meant by It in the Bible?” He explained that God gives us light and it is always active and positive. In the second session, “As a child of Light how are you to Shine in this World?”, we learned that light is both a noun and a verb. God equips us and prepares us to walk as children of light. We bear with one another in love. We shine God’s glory so others see Jesus through the darkness of this world.

Financial report as of June 14, 2024

- Offering #1 Mites - \$5,168.40
- Offering #2 Perry Center - \$4,583.67
- Offering #3 Lutheran Island Camp - \$4,767.08
- Mite Walk - \$4,201.00
- Silent Auction - \$3,829.50

Praise God!



Lutheran Women’s Missionary League
MN North District LWML Retreat
August 9-11, 2024
Lutheran Island Camp - Henning, MN

*For everything there is a season,
and a time for
everything under heaven
(Ecclesiastes 3:1).*

Young Women

Ruby Prochnow, Chairman
youngwomen@lwmlmnn.org

Just Amazing YOUNG WOMEN!

What a privilege for me to work with, pray with, and get to know the Young Women who attended the convention – “Walking as Children of Light.”

Breitenfeldt Health Insurance had given its clients a small flashlight some time ago. The committee contacted them and asked them to donate flashlights for the Young Women participants at the convention. They no longer had these flashlights, but volunteered to donate money to buy some. These were used to identify the Young Women as they entered the Assembly Hall. The gals were also presented with a flower hair piece to be worn as an ‘identification tag’ as Young Women attendees.

The Young Women were ready to participate with their radiant smiles and expressions as they moved through the activities provided by the committee. Being involved with the busy convention agenda, the gals did not have time to gather to do all planned activities.

We were able to have Lesson 1 of rev. Reed Stockman’s charcoal drawing class. What a talented group of gals who became artists in 30 minutes. There was no time for Lessons 2 & 3. The charcoal prints were displayed outside the Assembly Hall.

We hoped to make a quick snack, ‘Brownie in a Mug’ to enjoy as we did our activities, but there was no time to carry this out. The committee provided all the supplies, ingredients, and the recipe cards to make the brownie. Some of the gals were able to make and enjoy the treat, and others took the supplies home to make at home and share with their families.

Tuesday evening after the dinner, the group met at the pool for enjoyment and exercise. Spare time throughout the convention was spent

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

building relations as we prepared for the skit to be presented Wednesday morning.

The Young Women opened Wednesday morning with Devotional Skit. The Lord orchestrated the personalities, talents, and the roles of the participants of the skit so well, and we praise Him for that. To Him be the Glory!

Ten Young Women registered for the convention. The two YWRs representing MNN LWML at the Milwaukee Convention (National) reported on their experiences as YWRs at that convention.

The District Young Women Committee received a Thrivent grant to cover the supplies and snacks for the convention.

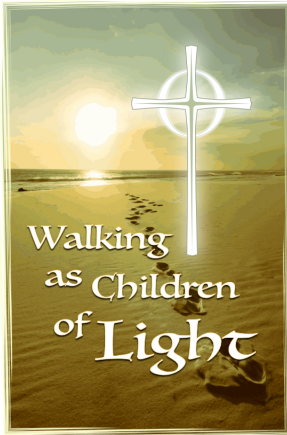
The group did enjoy the gatherings, but most did comment that they wished there had been more free time to gather in their meeting place to continue the activities planned. Certain items on the agenda were long and did not interest them.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruby Prochnow, Chairman of the Young Women Committee



Ruby Prochnow (in the hat) poses with the Amazing Young Women who performed the fantastic skit at the Minnesota North District LWML 2024 Convention at Cragan’s.

LWML MN North District 31st Biennial Convention



"...for at one time you were darkness,
but now you are light in the Lord.
Walk as children of light."
Ephesians 5:8

LWML MN North District 31st Biennial Convention

Cragun's Resort, 11000 Cragun's Drive, Brainerd, MN

June 3-5, 2024

Theme: *For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light* (Ephesians 5:8).

Welcome and Announcements

Glenice Hall, chairman of the Convention Planning Committee welcomed the convention attendees to Cragun's Resort, the site of the 31st Biennial convention of the LWML Minnesota North District. She encouraged us to enjoy the beauty of Gull Lake and the surroundings, and expressed the wish that we would be inspired and renewed at this convention.

Throughout the following days several announcements were made concerning events at the convention. The announcements were made by Glenice Hall, Karen Gorentz and President Kathy Brandt.

Registration Team Thanks

Here we are, one of the first conventions of the summer season for Cragun's. Guest's would walk by and ask, "What convention is this?". We could joyfully say, "Lutheran Women in Mission." Then, as they walked to the restaurant for meals, they could peek into the rooms with headings, "Servant Events" or "In-Gathering". For a couple of evenings on the way to the pool, guests could hear Christian music. All these events, as simple as they are, witness the privilege we have as children of God, walking in His Light, showing His love through our actions.

Thank you to Karen Brasel, chairman, and all members of the registration committee. Thank you to board members, especially Melodie with her inspiring musical renditions, for packing bags with materials. Thank you to Janice for all the hours of counting people and money. Now we know, with 'all hands on deck', how many hours it takes to put name tags into badges: over three.

The total convention registered attendees were 260 in the final count.

Members of the registration committee: Karen Brasel, chairman; Beth Lage; LuAnn Carow; Nancy Nerberger; MaryAnn Ostenso; Florence Rice; Diane Ehlenfeldt; Char Lieder; Bonnie Ealy; Sharon Kimmes; and Alisyn Keil. And thank you to Doug Curtis who made signs.

Board liaisons: Janice Carlson and Kathy Steinmetz

Opening Service

Our convention "Walking as Children of Light" began with our opening service led by Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy. Our lector was the retiring Pastoral Councilor Rev. Matthew Vrudny. Rev. Reed Stockman used the sermon to show us how to Walk as Children of Light. The choir sang "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light." The service was attended by about 275 people with the Lord's Supper offered. The first offering that was collected with this service totaled \$5,063.40 which will go towards the new mite goal for the 2024 – 2026 Biennium.

Submitted by Mary Scott, LWML MN North District Corresponding Secretary

Convention Ingatherings and Service Events

Convention Servant Events

The Servant Events began June 3, 2024, Monday morning at 11:00 a.m.



Fleece blankets – Single layer, woven edge. Fleece will need cutting and weaving. The blankets will be donated to Perham 180, which provide transitional housing for recovering individuals and to a shelter in the Detroit Lakes area.



Fabric eyeglass cases – Simple sewing on a machine. We will be providing a few sewing machines to use. We will provide plug in space if you wish to bring your own machine. These cases are then donated to MOST Ministries

Witness bracelets – Stringing beads in the correct order on leather lacing.

These bracelets are donated to MOST Ministries who coordinate Short Term Mission Trips where they distribute eyeglasses and tell the story of Jesus.



Plastic sleeping mats – Cut bags, loop plastic strips into ‘plarn’ and crochet. These mats are donated to Orphan Grain Train for distribution in our country or farther away as they determine the need.

LWML 41st Biennial Convention

Logo Explanation:

The 2025 Lutheran Women in Mission Convention logo features green leaves sprouting up and revealing the Lutheran Women in Mission icon to signify Growing in God’s Grace. It is based on the convention verse, 2 Peter 3:18 — *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.*

A fresh, bright green color is used for the leaves and the word “grace” to indicate new growth and to connect it with God’s grace. Including the Lutheran Women in Mission icon links the logo with our organization and the convention goal “Through Word and Sacrament, I will grow in grace to serve our Lord and proclaim His glory.”



Convention Ingatherings and Service Events

Relationship Safety Alliance

- Number of Items collected – 1,372 total
- 78 iPhone / accessories
- 479 Personal care & hygiene supplies
- 117 Baby supplies including blanket
- 11 Black leggings
- 180 Cleaning & home care supplies
- 329 Paper products
- 100 Housewares includes dishes, cookware & appliances
- 78 Blankets and quilts
- \$3,095 worth of Gift cards worth, plus 10 additional unmarked cards

Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries

- 1,118 Fabric eyeglass cases
- 263 Witness bracelets
- 15 Crocheted witness puppets
- Braided Edge Fleece Blankets:
 - 11 For Project 180 Perham, MN
 - 14 For the Crisis center, Detroit Lakes, MN



MOST Ministries
Mission Opportunities Short Term



Convention Mite Walk



Article about Convention Keynote Speaker

By Teresa Klatt, Outgoing Scholarship Committee Chairman



I had the pleasure to speak with our Convention keynote speaker, Katie Schuermann. Having read only a portion of her book House of Living Stones, I'm hooked. I purchased three of her books that she was selling at the convention. I told her that I really enjoyed her Lutheran perspective. She responded, Aren't Lutherans interesting? with a big smile. I agreed. You know that feeling that you get when you meet a stranger and discover she has the same faith as you? That's what it is like reading her books. It feels comfortable, like home, a breath of fresh air in

that she tells the story of just how human and interesting Lutherans are. She told me that her three book fictional series is modeled after the Anne of Green Gables series, written by L. M. Montgomery that she read as a child.

Katie has received multiple awards for her publications and is a popular speaker. She spoke on Tuesday afternoon about what she calls the death of her family as she wrote about in her book He Remembers the Barren. She spoke about being Lutheran, bursting into song at various points with the audience joining in with her sweet voice at times. She received a standing ovation.

2024 Newly Elected Officers

The following were elected to Officer Positions on the District board. Seventy-seven votes were needed for a majority.

District President

Kathy Brandt, Park I, Crookston Zone, Ada

Per Article 7, Section 1 LWML Minnesota North District Bylaws:

a. The elected officers shall be elected by ballot at the biennial convention to serve for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are elected.

Corresponding Secretary

Katy Gifford, Lakeland II, Wheaton Zone, Wheaton

Treasurer

Phyllis Sommers, Park I, Crookston Zone, Warren

Regional Vice Presidents

Arrowhead I RVP

Pam Stauty, Iron Range Zone, Aurora

Lakeland I RVP

Mary Scott, Long Prairie Zone, Sauk Centre

Park I RVP

Deb Anderson, Bemidji/Park Rapids Zone, Park Rapids

Pastoral Counselor (Park Region)

Rev. Daniel Larsen, St. Paul, Henning



Pictured L-R:

Kathy Steinmetz, outgoing Treasurer and Jan Carlson, Financial Secretary.

2024 Convention Breakout Sessions



Breakout Session C – Rev. Mark Peske, Emotional Healing through the Gospel

Rev. Mark Peske presented his topic of Emotional Healing through the Gospel. We began by singing "Holy, Holy, Holy".

Jesus the great healer, heals physical problems as well as emotional wounds. We know that there are many relationship problems, rifts with God and addictions. The Bible tells us in Hebrews 12:15

"See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled."

Rev. Peske gave us some pointers that professionals use for helping people work through problems.

1. Just listen
2. Identify similarities in others
3. Bring God into this process
4. Find the root cause of the problem. Evil roots in resentment, guilt and fears.
5. Encourage others to tell their story
6. Identify the effects of the experience
7. Forgive the wrong suffered
8. Look to Christ for healing

From Matthew 6:14, *"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you,"* and from Psalm 147:3, *"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."*

God's word from 1 Peter 2:24, *"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."*



Breakout Session B – Mary Scott Parish, Nursing (Faith Community Nursing)

Mary Scott is the Minnesota North District Parish Nurse Representative to the Synod and is the Parish Nurse at Zion Lutheran Church, Sauk Centre, Minnesota. Her presentation defined what a parish nurse is and what it is not. She explained the functions of the Parish Health Ministry. She emphasized how this is not "hands on" care and does not replace Health Care services or Pastoral care.

Parish Nursing is a blend of nursing and faith. The nurse uses resources to promote wellness of Spirit, Mind and Body. The Parish nurse promotes and develops education programs for the congregation as well as providing consulting services for Health, Christian lifestyle, disability awareness and acts as a community liaison for the congregation.

The need for Parish nurses in the Minnesota North district is great. We currently only have 8 parish nurses and they are getting older. Perhaps there are nurses in the district willing to serve in this very important ministry. Applicants must be an R.N. with a current license. Mary can be reached at 1025msc@gmail.com or 320-248-8877 if you or someone you know would have an interest in this.

2024 Convention Results

Mite Goal and information about the new mission grants

The 31st Biennial LWML MN North District convention set the new 2024-2026 Mission Grant goal at **\$147,000.00**. The new mission grants to be funded are as follows:

Scholarships for Men Preparing for Ordination	\$8000.00
Scholarships for Full Time Church Worker Students	\$32,000.00
C.R.O.S.S. Appeal	\$20,000.00
DOXOLOGY-Pastoral Care and Well-being	\$15,000.00
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Physical Wellness for At-risk Children	\$15,000.00
St. Paul’s Lutheran School, Perham	\$17,127.00
Immanuel Lutheran School, Walker	\$10,000.00
Good Shepherd Lutheran High School, Elk River	\$9840.00
Swaddling Clothes-Redeemer Lutheran, Aurora	\$15,000.00
Lutheran Heritage Foundation, Providing Hmong Lutheran Books, (partial funding)	\$5033.00
Total	\$147,000.00

Offering information

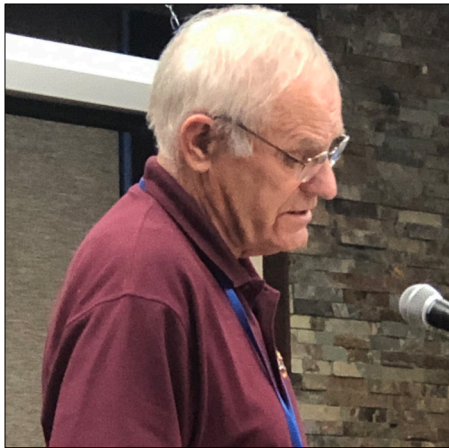
There were three offerings taken at the 31st Biennial LWML Convention in Brainerd. The first offering according to the LWML Minnesota North District Bylaws was gathered and applied to the Mission Goal for the 2024-2026 biennium. The total offering at 10 am on June 5, 2024 was **\$5,063.40**.

The second offering was giving for The Perry Center, Fargo, ND to enable the staff there to minister the love of Jesus Christ to single women experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. The total offering at 10:00 am on June 5, 2024 was **\$4,428.67**.

The third offering was collected for Lutheran Island Camp to provide financial assistance to keep camp fees affordable and to strengthen the camp for future growth. The total offering at 10:00 am on June 5, 2024 was **\$4,232.08**.

Praise to God for the generosity of the LWML Minnesota North District!

Reports about 2024 Convention Mites in Action Speakers



Mites in Action Speakers

Orphan Grain Train – Eugene Pasche

Eugene Pasche described how Orphan Grain Train started from humble beginnings as a Lutheran Layman's League project into it's current form serving needs in thirty-eight states and thirty-one countries. There are twenty-seven regional locations coast-to-coast and border-to-border. The organization has earned a four star rating (top ten overall) since 98.2% of what is donated goes to the mission.



Lutheran Island Camp – Stacy Lung, Executive Director

Stacy Lung thanked the LWML for it's continual support of Lutheran Island Camp indicating that a recent gift provided emergency repairs to the water heater. She reported that to date there were 800 registered summer campers and that they would focus on five of Jesus's "I AM" statements. After the LWML Retreat work will begin on the new dining hall. Due to \$2 million in fundraising efforts the debt has been paid off.



C.R.O.S.S. Appeal – Melissa Lamkin, Director of School Ministry, Good Shepherd Lutheran High School, Elk River, MN & Kelly Lamkin, Principal, Zion-Crown Christian School

Kelly Lamkin described how C.R.O.S.S. Appeal teachers and staff are shared among multiple locations. They teach students to be confident in their faith, lead others, role model and learn about ministry. Students should be ready to answer any question about their faith. Melissa Lamkin was brought to tears describing how effective and impactful the support from the LWML is to the organization.



Swaddling Clothes – Rev. Don Stauty, Swaddling Clothes
Rev. Don Stauty retired from the ministry in 2023, however, he continues to serve Swaddling Clothes, which is a mission of mercy for mothers and babies. It is an LCMS organization with two Minnesota locations but there are a total of twenty-eight locations nationwide. He indicated that most commonly the reason for choosing abortion is a lack of money, so this ministry, hopefully, provides an attractive alternative. Some of the items (car seats, strollers) rotate through the store after the child outgrows them. Diapers, formula and clothing are offered to support daily needs. A “designated grandma” provides babysitting allowing the parent to shop. He encourages everyone to establish a local center.



Scholarship Recipients – Mark Langton & Rebecca Pumphrey
Scholarship recipient Rebecca Pumphrey was, unfortunately, unable to attend the convention due to a recent injury. However, scholarship recipient Mark Langton and his wife of eight years attended the convention. Mark wanted to teach K-12 music but the Lord called him into the ministry. He stated that LWML scholarships not only profoundly affect the recipients but they also set a foundation for future church workers.



Breakout Session A: "Human Trafficking and Rescue - Operation Freedom"
Presented by Caleb Monson.



Breakout Session D: "Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch"
Presented by Rev. Rick Jones, Chaplin, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, ND.

**Web Links**LWML MN North District www.lwmlmn.orgLWML: www.lwml.org**Board of Directors****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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