



New Jersey Mission Light



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A message from our president. .

Mountain-Top Experience in ABQ!

Our New Jersey Delegation represented you well in Albuquerque! (see group photo) Our theme was "Jesus Christ Above All," which we proclaimed from the mountaintops! (or at least from 5000 feet above sea level!) We voted on our new mission grants for the new biennium (see page 3) and elected new officers, including our very own Ginger Starrett as Recording Secretary! (This is a first for New Jersey to have someone elected to the executive board!) Christy Ndem, representing the Heart-2-Heart Sisters, opened a session with prayer at the National Convention, while her daughter, Ola Odederle, was our Young Woman Representative and carried our beautiful banner in the banner processional! We would like to thank Caren and Naomi Vogt for designing and creating our convention banner for Albuquerque! Please check out the convention highlights on pages 5-6. The livestream video feeds can still be found at www.lwml.org for those who would like to check out the great speakers, Bible Study, and excitement of this convention. To God be the Glory!

Arlene Price, President, LWML - NJ District



Banner designed by Caren and Naomi Vogt



Gospel Outreach

I'm happy to announce that we've paid our second mite project to the LWML New Jersey District's Heart-2-Heart Sister Program, and we are now working on grant #3 which is for the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Keep those mites coming, and try to send them in on a monthly basis to our treasurer, Sara Hanson! It's been slow over the summer months, so let's try to stay on track because our grant recipients are waiting for this support. God uses our small contributions and pools them for a greater good. If you need new Mite Boxes, call 1-800-325-3040.



Caren Vogt
VP of Gospel Outreach
LWML NJ District

PAID!
➔



Heart 2 Heart Sister Programming
Funds to support ethnic women in NJ Enabling them to attend LWML events & to purchase multi-lingual materials to share
\$3000




Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
to fund bibles to give to those detained and awaiting a decision on entry to give hope submitted by Fair Lawn LWML & LIRS
\$3,000




← **Working on Mite Grant #3**

2016-18 Mission Grants			
Grant Report as of 4-24-17	Total	Paid	Balance
Bethesda Lutheran Communities: Counseling for Parents expecting disabled children	\$3000	\$3000	\$0
Heart-2-Heart Sister Programming: LWML - NJ District	\$3000	\$3000	\$0
Urban Mission Work in Newark, NJ: LCMS-NJ District <small>*Pastor Buckman accepted call to Lake Forest, IL and currently there is no one coordinating this program</small>	(\$3000)	Declined	\$0
Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services: Bibles for detainees	\$3000	\$0	\$3000
Lutheran Heritage Foundation: Bible Story Books for Asian Immigrant Children	\$3000	\$0	\$3000
St. John's Bridgeton, NJ: "Feeding Families" – Food Bank <small>*partially funded at convention for \$1500, and voted on 3/11/17 to add \$1500 to this grant after #3 was declined</small>	\$3000	\$0	\$3000
TOTALS:	\$15000	\$6000	\$9000



National LWML Mission Grants 2017-2019 biennium

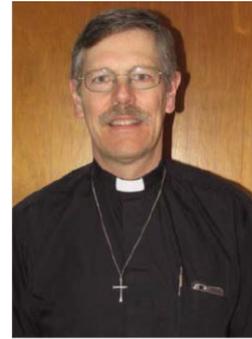
Delegates to the 37th Biennial Convention of the LWML adopted a \$2,075,000 mission goal for the 2017-2019 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 22 mission grants as men and women respond in prayer and offerings during the next two years. LWML chose to support the following mission grants, pledging their support with prayers and mites (offerings) given over the next biennium:

1. Providing Food and the Gospel to Starving Children – Mercy Meals of Siouxland, \$40,000
2. Mercy House for Women and Children – Franklin Avenue Mission, Flint, Michigan, \$100,000
3. Christ for Veterans and Their Families – LCMS Ministry of the Armed Forces, \$27,750
4. Tanzanian Sewing Center – Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT), \$25,000
5. Current Missionary Need – LCMS International Mission, \$100,000
6. Lutheran Children’s Books for Families Worldwide – Lutheran Heritage Foundation, \$100,000
7. Christian Hope Through Mass Media in Egypt – Lutheran Hour Ministries, \$100,000
8. NOLA 4H: Hearts for the Hungry, Homeless and Hurting – CFUP, \$100,000
9. Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund, \$80,000
10. Christian Eldercare Home in Haiti – Ministry in Mission, \$100,000
11. Training Lutheran Middle Eastern Missionaries – Biblical Orthodox Lutheran Mission, \$93,000
12. Completion of Lukonda Lutheran School Buildings, Uganda – LCMS Uganda, \$48,000
13. Equipping Youth to Witness for Life - Y4Life – Lutherans for Life, \$25,000
14. Laborers of Love – Lutheran Braille Workers, \$100,000
15. Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities – Bethesda Lutheran Communities, \$100,000
16. Education Loan Repayment Assistance Grants – Ministry Focus, \$100,000
17. Nursing Students Serving with Mercy Medical Team – LCMS International Mission, \$25,000
18. Restoration Programs for Native Hawaiians – Lutheran Indian Ministries, \$75,000
19. RECONNECT to the Body of Christ, Circuit 28 –Texas District, \$50,000
20. Prison and Jail Ministry Synod-wide Conference in 2018, \$36,500
21. Family Scholarships for Short Term Mission Trips – MOST Ministries, \$60,000
22. Raising Pastors and Deaconesses – Evangelical Lutheran Church of Liberia, \$97,000

Learn more about these grants on the LWML webpage at
www.lwml.org/missions-grants



One of my favorite television programs is called “Death in Paradise.” The show centers around a police department on the fictional Caribbean island of Saint-Marie’s, where they try to solve the murder cases they are confronted with. Everything seems impossible, because all the suspects have iron-clad alibis and therefore could not have caused the murder. Then something happens — perhaps someone says something or another person does something — which causes the Detective Inspector to realize who the murderer is. It is quite interesting to watch the inspector, especially D.I. Humphrey Goodman, as he is suddenly piecing all the clues together, based on that one piece of evidence, and solving the case. As another detective from a different era, Hercule Poirot, would always say, “the little gray cells, they are working.”



Rev. Richard Vossler



That one piece of evidence became the key for the chief detective to solving the crime and putting the murder behind bars. In a similar way there is one “key” that we need, not to put a murderer away, but to understand life. Paul writes in Philippians 2 “⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” This corresponds to the theme for this year’s LWML convention: “Jesus Christ above all — Philippians 2:9.”

These verses can be read in two different ways. It is a word of law for people who do not have saving faith in Jesus. At the Judgment Day, they will come to learn that, without faith in Jesus, they have no hope of eternal life. To them, bowing down the knee to Jesus is not an act of joy, but an act of terror and sadness.

However, for us as believers in Jesus, it is a word of joy. More than that, it is a word that puts the rest of our lives into perspective. Jesus is the most important person in our lives, and He is the One who gives our lives meaning. When we confess with St. Paul “Jesus Christ is Lord,” we are saying that Jesus is the One who not only controls our lives but also protects us. After all, that was the job of the medieval “lord” — protect the people under his care. As such, Jesus is our Lord who protects us and saves us. Jesus is the key to our lives.

Our lives can become very confusing. We are bombarded with so many distractions and demands on our time, talents and treasures. We need some way to make sense of our lives, put them into perspective, live in a God-pleasing way. In the same way that D. I. Humphrey in “Death in Paradise” cannot make any sense of the situation until he finds the one clue to unlock the case, we also cannot make any sense of our lives until we acknowledge the one key in our life -“Jesus Christ above all.” That is a word of joy!



Jesus Christ Above All!

*National LWML
Convention Highlights
June 22-25, 2017*





Highlights from the LWML Convention in ABQ:

- Total number of convention attendees was 3,471 of which 850 were first-timers!
- There were 81 Young Woman Representatives in attendance!
- Twenty-two new mission grants selected for this biennium with a mission goal of \$2.075 Million!
- Tee-Up-4-Mites, our convention golf outing, raised \$15,255.78 for mites!
- The Mission in Motion/Mission Pledge Walk raised \$72,683.06 with 1,132 participants!
- The blood donation drive had 106 participants!
- Gifts from the Heart donations provided: 340 Sheet Sets, 161 Baby Kits, 229 School Kits, 4,607 items of underwear, 22 boxes of towels and linens, and \$31,256 in Gift Cards, Cash, and Checks!
- Servant Event participants provided the following items to non-profit agencies in the region: 432 Marked Bibles; 100 Hygiene Bags; 3,000 Personal Care Kits; 354 Fleece Blankets; 1,147 Cards for Phil's Friends; 99 Quilts; and 639 School Kits.
- Convention Offering #1 for Mission Grants was \$48,818.52; Offering #2 for the 75th Anniversary LWML Endowment Fund was \$51,884.84; Offering #3 was for \$31,964.81 to a bilingual worker priest on the US/Mexico border through Concordia Lutheran Church, Chula Vista, CA; and Offering #4 for the "God Cares About You" mission in Albuquerque received \$33,710.56.
- There were 71 Mission Flags representing the countries where LWML has provided mission grants.
- "Jesus Christ Above All" was a wonderful 75th Anniversary theme as we celebrated in style and enjoyed the fellowship with thousands of sisters in Christ!

To God Be the Glory!!!!



Ginger Starrett Elected to National Office

Ginger was elected to a 4-year term as Recording Secretary and is now the first woman from the NJ District to be elected to the Executive Board of LWML.

**Congratulations, Ginger!
New Jersey is very proud of you!**

New LWML Logo Rolled out for 75th Anniversary Celebration:

A new LWML logo bearing the alternate name of the auxiliary — Lutheran Women *in Mission* — was unveiled during the convention.

“It is our prayer that this new logo will help women take a first look — or even another look — at the LWML,” said LWML President Patti Ross.

The logo features a heart, representing the “heart of God, which is behind all that we do”; a drop, to symbolize “the blood of Christ shed for us”; and a cross at the top showing that “we lift high the cross of Christ, guiding our thanks and praise and service,” according to Ross.



2018 New Jersey District Convention

Mark your calendars for August 17-19, 2018 when our NorthEastern Zone will be hosting our next New Jersey District Convention at the Hyatt in Morristown!

For those of you who attended our last District Convention, you can attest to the fun we had at this location with our Mission Walk on the Green, historical tours, and the beautiful convention hall and facilities at The Hyatt – Morristown.

Our theme for our upcoming convention is “Connected to the Vine,” based on John 15:5. Donna Pyle will be our Bible Study Leader once again, and we will be the first audience to hear her new Bible Study Series based on John 15:5 after it is released in July, 2018. Plans are coming together for a great convention, and all we need is for you to be there! You won’t want to miss out on the fun!

See you at Convention!!!

NEW JERSEY MISSION LIGHT

Spring Rallies Throughout New Jersey!

Manchester Tea
Raritan/South Zones
May 20, 2017



NEW JERSEY MISSION LIGHT

Spring Rallies Throughout New Jersey!

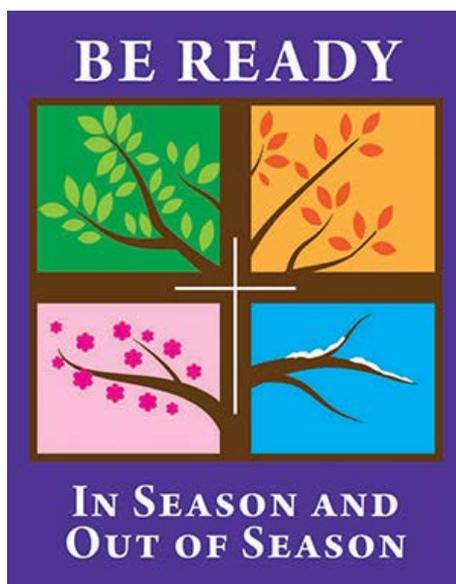
*Lakeland Zone Spring Rally
Gethsemane - Hackettstown
April 23, 2017*



Mark Your LWML Calendars!

Date	Time	Event
Sept. 9, 2017	9am – 10am	Executive Committee
	10am – 11:30am	Board Meeting at LCMS NJ District Office
Oct. 22, 2017	3pm – 5pm	Lakeland Fall Rally at Redeemer – Newton
TBD	TBD	Mid-Eastern Fall Rally
TBD	TBD	NorthEastern Fall Rally
TBD	TBD	Raritan/South Fall Rally
Nov. 4, 2017	8:30am – 4:00pm	NJ District Fall Retreat at Crane’s Mill in West Caldwell, NJ, Attention Coffee Lovers: “Sip, Savor and Drink Deeply”
March 3, 2018	9am – 10am	Executive Committee
	10am – 11:30am	Board Meeting at LCMS NJ District Office
April 22, 2018	3pm – 5pm	Lakeland Fall Rally at Good Shepherd – Randolph, NJ
TBD	TBD	Mid-Eastern Fall Rally
TBD	TBD	NorthEastern Fall Rally
TBD	TBD	Raritan/South Fall Rally
Aug. 17-19, 2018	All day programming	NJ District Convention – Hyatt in Morristown, NJ Theme: “Connected to the Vine” – John 15:5

2017 LWML Sunday Information - Order by September 1st!



LWML Sunday is traditionally celebrated on the first Sunday in October, but can be celebrated on any Sunday. Customize your congregation’s celebration of LWML Sunday through the LWML website at: www.lwml.org/lwml-Sunday.

This year’s theme, “Be Ready! In Season and Out of Season” was written by Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. who is the President of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. A complete worship service, ingathering litany, sermon and children’s message can be downloaded from the above website. New LWML Mission Grant bookmarks and new Mite Boxes can be ordered free for postage. New Children’s mite boxes can also be ordered free for postage to be distributed in Sunday School or as part of the children’s message.

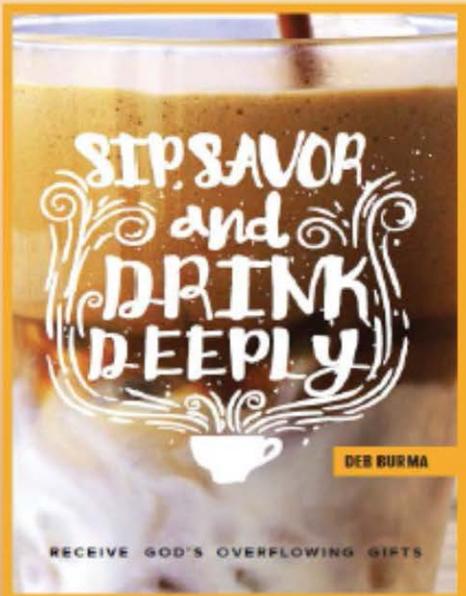
All items can be ordered by calling 1-800-325-3043.

LWML New Jersey District Fall Retreat Coming on 11/4/17:

Attention, All Coffee Lovers! "Sip, Savor and Drink Deeply" will be the theme for our Fall District Retreat at Crane's Mill on November 4, 2017. We were able to talk to Deb Burma, the author of this devotional book, at our LWML Convention in Albuquerque where she was signing copies. You may remember our "Chocolate Life Retreat" from two years ago which was also written by Deb Burma. She knows how to incorporate our favorite things into inspirational devotions. This will be a fun day of Bible Study, Food and Fellowship! You can send your registration fee of \$25 to Sara Hanson, our NJ District Treasurer by Oct. 31st. We will need a head count for our lunch at Crane's Mill. See you at the District Retreat!



Gay Van Etten, Vice President
Christian Life & Organizational Resources



LWML NJ District Fall Retreat

November 4, 2017; 8:30am - 4:00pm

Crane's Mill in West Caldwell, NJ

Registration Fee of \$25 made payable to:

LWML- NJ District and mail to Sara Hanson

Treasurer, at 38 Penn Ave, Newton, NJ 07860.

Name: _____
Address: _____ CellPhone: _____
Email _____ Phone _____
Society: _____ Zone: _____
Church: _____ City: _____

Please join us for fun, fellowship, Bible Study and Coffee!

Questions or Special Needs? Contact Gay VanEtten at 908-362-0208 (home)
Bring gift cards in \$10 increments for CVS or Walgreens to give to Lutheran Social
Ministries as our "Gift of the Heart"

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