



New Jersey Mission Light



A message from our president...

In this issue:

President's Message

Spotlight on
Mission Grants

Pastor's Corner

Highlights of
upcoming virtual NJ
District Convention

Around the NJ
District....

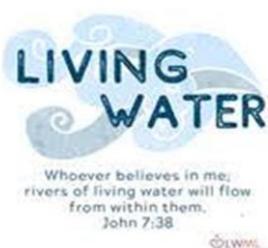
Prayer Chain

Calendar of Events

And Much, Much,
More...



**Virtual LWML
NJ District
Convention
Aug. 29, 2020**



Greetings to my Sisters in Christ,

Well, the lazy hazy days of summer are upon us, and there is nothing more refreshing than a working air conditioner. Whether at home, work or in the car, we depend on our air conditioners to make our surroundings more bearable. As we continue to live under the threat of coronavirus, we look toward our faith and pastors to help us make sense of all this. Why is God allowing this? What is taking so long for a vaccine? Etc. Questions that will probably never be answered to our satisfaction.

So what should we do? As people of faith, we continue to pray: pray for a cure, pray for the sick, pray for health care workers. Also, we need to look around us to see what God has provided and use to His glory. Early Christians met in secretly in homes due to fear of persecution. Today we are meeting by Zoom & Google Meet in fear of the virus. Funny how God had these tools in place for our use before we needed them – only we were too complacent to learn. Today, we routinely use them.

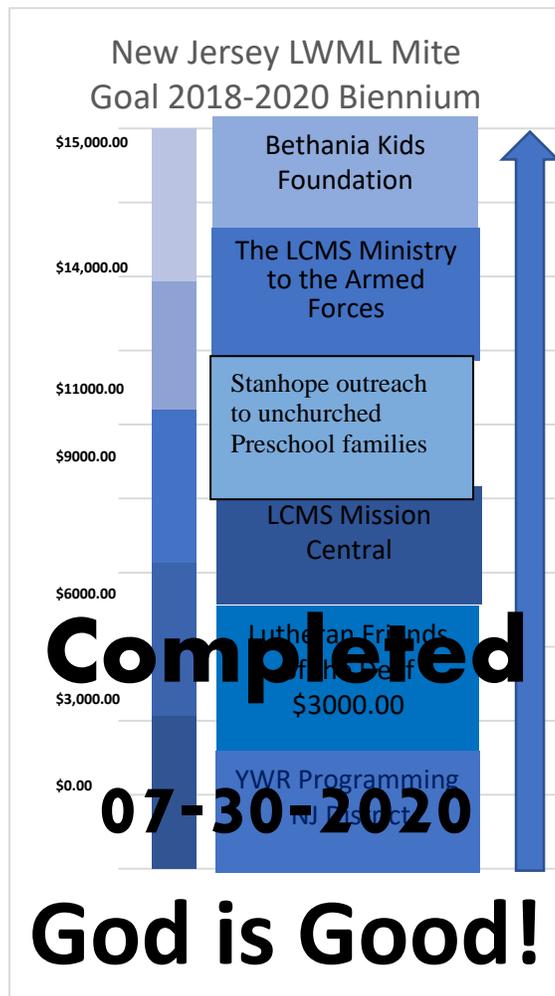
So, I ask each one of us, to take a fresh look at what God has placed at our disposal and consider how it can be used for His glory. Whether it's a telephone, computer, or oven, let's see if we can use these items to be a blessing to others. Let's not live in fear but with purpose. Waking up each day with the purpose of working for God's kingdom through doing, will make these days of coronavirus more bearable.

Your Sister in Christ,

Susan Harnos

President
LWML- New Jersey District





Gospel Outreach Report

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! According to treasurer Brenda's update for MITE Giving we raised from March till now another \$2362.77 toward our last two Mite Grants. The LWML Board voted to take \$3,900 from our All Glory to God Fund so that we could complete our last two Mite Projects. **WE HAVE COMPLETED OUR 5TH MITE PROJECT to The LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces and our 6TH Mite Project to Bethania Kids Foundation. Praise God!!!** We start the new Biennium with \$65.69 in our Mite Account.

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this capacity for the last 4 years. Our churches and societies have seen many changes. Familiar faces have either gone home to Glory or have retired and moved away. As you vote on the new Biennium Grants please consider your Mite givings over these last 4 years and will you be able, with the Grace of God, be able to give the same? Will your society be able to give more than they have in the past so we don't have to borrow money from our funds? Is your giving going to be less than in the past because your demographics and finances are changing? Please consider these questions before your vote on the total of grant money we need to raise. I do not want the next person in my position to have to write a letter to an organization stating that we did not raise enough funds to complete their grant. My prayers are with all of you as you make decisions in the next few weeks. Please stay safe and well during this very difficult time. Hold on to Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

On a personal note I will be retiring to South Carolina next summer with my husband. We announced our retirement date to our congregation two weeks ago.

Praying all of you are well and keeping safe during these times. I am thankful that God's word is getting out to more people than just those in our pews. Blessings to all of you.

Convention Ingathering of the Heart BackPacks for Children

For Convention the BOD has approved our ingathering. Backpacks for children. 16 million children live in extreme poverty in the US and with Covid19 that number will rise over the next few months. We are asking you to bring as many backpacks that you are able filled with the following items: 3 folders, 2 notebooks, 1 pk of #2 pencils, 1 pk of Post its, 2 pens, a pk of crayons, a pencil pouch with ruler, eraser, & pencil sharpener. These will be given to our Church's food banks to be given out. Thank you for your generosity.



Caren Vogt
VP, Gospel Outreach



“Virtual Urgency”

Rev. Matt Hass
District Counselor
LWML NJ District



Dear Friends in Christ,

A word that captures the overall feeling of this year is the word “urgency”. In mid-March, businesses, schools, programs, leaders, and churches experienced an urgent need to respond to the concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a pastor, I found this sense of urgency was especially present among us in our approach to worship. The Holy Scriptures speak to us about the urgency of getting the Word of God out to others. St. Paul writes in Romans 10:14-15, *“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”*

This year churches all over the World recognized the urgency of getting God’s Word out to the world. Pastors, workers, and lay-leaders work tirelessly to move online and to engage the community with the Gospel of Christ. The church never closed. In fact, the church actually became more public! I want to take time to share some of the take-aways that I learned with moving the ministries online...

1. **The need to move:** Sometimes introducing new things takes time, patience, and teaching. However, when the pandemic changed the approach to ministry, God’s people were great at adjusting to quick needed change. The church needed to move and move quickly.
2. **The need to learn:** The first month was a battle where nothing seemed to work correctly. Each week we learned new things and tried different approaches. Today the process of doing worship online is much smoother now.
3. **The need to be a team.** When this all began it was just me and one other person running the live worship. As weeks progressed we recorded the musicians and developed a tech team to spread the load. This not only made things easier for me but it also gave others in the church a role to participate in the ministry.
4. **The opportunity to be creative.** In being creative it is important to ask the question of why? Our church did worship on Facebook Live. Why did we choose Facebook Live? We decided upon Facebook Live because it allowed people to interact with each other in real time. It was a way of keep our church together. I also did Facebook Live phone interviews with church members. We also started doing parking lot worship in June. That has been a great experience!
5. **The need for prayer:** We made prayer a priority. We changed our website to allow people to send in prayer requests. We also invited people to text in their prayer requests or submit them as worship is going on at Facebook.

This has been a challenging time but I do know that God continues to be at work in the proclaiming of His Word and He is working through His church in wonderful ways.

Pastor Matt

Around the New Jersey District....



Baker's Delight!

Susan Harnos and Susan Donnelly were decked out in their purple LWML rain gear for their local Farmer's Market in Lanoka Harbor, NJ where they sold \$551 in baked goods.

You never know when you'll have an opportunity to witness for our Lord and talk about LWML all at the same time!

Pictured from L to R: Susan Harnos, Joyce Kennedy, Chikako Drawbaugh, Brenda Breza at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Hackettstown, NJ



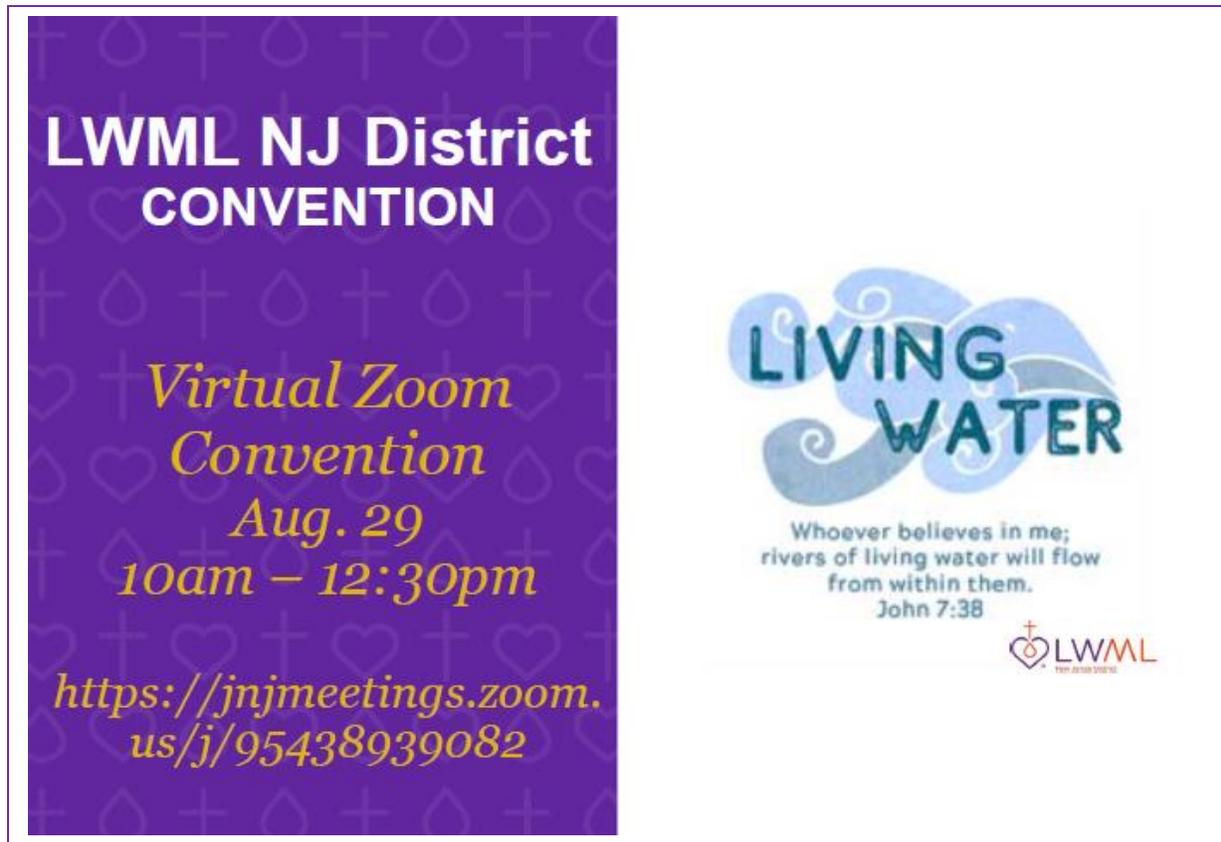
Congratulations Women's Guild's in Hackettstown

The Women's Guild of Gethsemane, Hackettstown were the winners of the March for Mites, campaign. Raising \$590 for mites, the ladies won the Bible study – *What ever...* - for 10 along with the frills of pens, pads, coffee, tea, chocolate. President Joyce Kennedy and Chikako Drawbaugh accepted the prize on behalf of the group. The campaign raised over \$3,100 for mites and we were able to pay off mission grant #3.

Summer Reading Raffle for Mites

The July summer reading raffle featured Katie Schuermann's book, *House of Living Stones*, along with a LWML hat, LWML travel mug and sun protectant. Thanks to our generous donors, we raised \$300 for mites. The raffle winner is Julia Sabella from Somerset Hills Lutheran Church. Although Julia won this raffle, the real winner is the mission grant, Ministry for the Armed Forces, that the money raised will go toward funding. Praise God!





LWML NJ District CONVENTION

Virtual Zoom Convention

Aug. 29

10am – 12:30pm

<https://jnymeetings.zoom.us/j/95438939082>

LIVING WATER

Whoever believes in me;
rivers of living water will flow
from within them.
John 7:38



VIRTUAL CONVENTION NEWS:

As announced last month, your Executive Committee has voted to go with a VIRTUAL ZOOM CONVENTION on Saturday, August 29th, from 10am -12:30pm EST. You can view the convention from your laptop or iphone/smartphone, or call in to hear the proceedings from the safety of your home, or with a small group at your church. Leading up to the convention, we'll hold our traditional "Walk for Mites". Participants are encouraged to ask for mite donations then go for a walk – around your home, community or favorite park, or do it virtually! Donations will be used to kick-start the 2020-2022 mission goal. The best way to get information on the convention is to check out our website at <https://lwmlnj.org/news-and-events/district-convention-2020/> You'll find information on our Mission Grant Slate, By-law Changes, Election of Officers, and information on our backpack collection as our Gift of the Heart for the Convention. There's also a section for Delegate Information, and speaking of Delegates.....

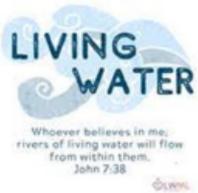


ATTENTION DELEGATES:

Each society is allowed two delegates, zones – one delegate, as well as past district presidents still in NJ, and the LWML NJD executive committee. Please register with Susan Makowski at: seashoresusan@netscape.net or (609) 693-4887. All delegates must be registered by August 14th. There will be a delegate meeting via Zoom on August 15th at 10am to discuss any issues or questions about what you will be voting on and to confirm email information. There will be provisions made for those voting by mail. Electronic voting is scheduled for August 22nd and results will be announced during the convention on August 29th.

Grant
Proposal for
2020 -2022
Biennium

Biennium Grant Projects 2020-2022 Ballots



Ministry	Grant Amount
Good Shepherd Mission, Patterson NJ (Our Savior Lutheran, Fair Lawn)	\$1000.00
Leadership Conference for Korean Children, Go Ahead Mission, INC Ridgefield Park	\$1,000.00
Bloomfield College Campus Ministry, St John Bloomfield	\$3,000.00
Christopher Columbus Gardens, Hoboken, Mile Square Church	\$1,800.00
Retaining Wall for Preschool, King of Kings, Mountain Lakes	\$750.00
Rebuilding of Education Program, Calvary Medford	\$1,680.00
Dr. Kristin Schmaltz Compassion Evangelical Hospital, Somerset Hills, Basking Ridge	\$1,500.00
Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool, Gethsemane, Hackettstown	\$1200.00
Grace's Food Pantry, Franklin, Prince of Peace Hamburg	\$2,000.00
Catechisms for Believers and Missionaries in India, Lutheran Heritage Foundation	\$1,000.00
Outreach Training Seminar NJ, POBLO International	\$1000.00
Lutheran Villages in Haiti, Ministry in Mission, LCMS RSO	\$1000.00

Delegates will be selecting 6 Mission Grants from the slate listed above. There is further background information on each grant submission on our website at <https://lwmlnj.org/news-and-events/district-convention-2020/> along with information on selecting grants. Please prayerfully consider each grant candidate before casting your vote as a delegate.

Our Gifts From the Heart for Convention: Children's Backpacks



Fill Each Backpack with:

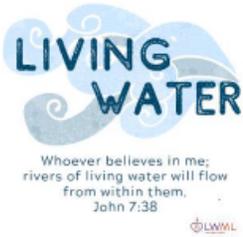
3 folders, 2 notebooks, 1 pk of #2 pencils, 1 pk of Post its, 2 pens, a pack of crayons, a pencil pouch with ruler, eraser, & pencil sharpener.

Conventions are not only a time to gather as a group but also a gathering of Gifts from the Heart. Just because we are not meeting in person does not mean we should neglect the opportunity reach out in love to our neighbors in need. We'll continue the GFTH tradition by having an ingathering of filled backpacks to be distributed around the state. At the end of convention there will be a blessing of the backpacks, so keep them by your side while tuned in. Then call your nearest drop-off location for distribution instructions.

Drop-off locations:

North east NJ	Mile Square Church - Hoboken	616-560-5161
North west NJ	Prince of Peace - Hamburg	973-827-5080
Middle NJ	Camino de Fe - Bernardsville	908-922-7491
South NJ	St. John's - Bridgeton	856-451-0141

Registration Form



LWML New Jersey District
25th Biennial Convention Via Zoom
August 29, 2020

Registration Deadline: August 22, 2020

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ **Home Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Home Church & City: _____

Zone: _____ **Society Name:** _____

Mark all
that apply:

- Delegate Alternate District Officer LWML Member
 YWR Guest Pastor Pastor's Wife
 Heart to Heart Sister Exhibitor Past NJD President

The convention committee is working hard to learn, then produce the 2020 convention through Zoom. To ensure that you receive an invitation to join us, we need to make sure we have your most current contact information. Although we do not have normal convention expenses, there are cost to doing a virtual event. We are not requiring registration fee for attending, but ask that you consider sending a donation, earmarked 2020 convention fund, to help offset these costs.

Email registration forms to our registrar: Susan Mankowski: seashoresusan@netscape.net

with cc: seharnos@gmail.com & arlene.lwml@optimum.net



President's message

As your new president, I wish there could be forty of me so I could attend all your conventions, but please know that you are in my prayers always.



This is an exciting time with so many changes. We have twenty-one new mission grants to support through our mites. What a variety of grants — from a Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus in Guatemala to Christ for You Anytime, Anywhere for KFUD Radio, our LCMS broadcast network. Through each of these grants we are sharing the love and mercy of Jesus.

The Presidents Assembly met for the first time in January sharing in their discussions ideas, issues and solutions. This is such a valuable time for them, and I pray for these leaders as they take these ideas back to their districts.

This is a time to celebrate the LWML for all the blessings you have brought to each of your districts. Together you funded over 464 grants and raised over \$6,086,000 in mites through the forty districts. To God be the glory!



Each of you is special to me, but more importantly special to God. You are HIS!



2020 Report to the Districts
Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Mission Grants

2019-2021 Biennium

Mission Goal \$2,100,000

- 1. Water and the Word for Rural Schools in Kenya, \$80,000
2. Teach Me Too - Preschoolers with Learning Needs in Austin, TX (LSEM), \$100,000
3. Mission Outreach for At-Risk Young Women in Africa (LHM), \$100,000
4. God's Grace for This Generation (LAMP), \$100,000
5. God's Word Changes Everything (LBT), \$95,000
6. Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus in Guatemala, \$100,000
7. Restoring Hope for Detroit Children and Families - Camp Restore Detroit, \$100,000
8. Lights for Christ Scholarships in Guatemala, \$95,000
9. Wind River Indian Reservation Transportation in Wyoming (WRLM), \$40,000
10. Ministry in Motion at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mobile, AL, \$58,000
11. Touching the Living Word (LBW), \$100,000
12. Women's Witness and Mercy in Asia (Mission Central), \$100,000
13. Digital Media Development (LFL), \$30,000
14. Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln, NE, \$50,000
15. Pre- and Post-Seminary Training for Local Church Workers in Africa, \$62,650
16. Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow (LCMS School Ministries), \$80,000
17. Christ for You, Anytime, Anywhere (KFUD Radio), \$60,000
18. Sri Lanka Multipurpose Building Construction (LCMS OIM), \$50,000
19. Making Jesus Known in the US Ethnic Communities at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, \$100,000
20. Music Outreach, Classes, and Resources on the Border in El Paso, TX, \$98,400
21. LCMS Deaconess Ministry (LCMS OIM), \$39,523



39th Biennial Convention



Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:1-2).

**Thursday, June 24-Sunday, June 27, 2021
Rupp Arena – Lexington, Kentucky**

Convention Logo Explanation

The convention logo incorporates the shape of the last letter of the Greek alphabet, Omega, and makes reference to the passage from Scripture, I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last the beginning and the end ... (Revelation 22:13). The symbol is shaped like a horseshoe, which is appropriate as horses are a large part of the Kentucky culture.

Ancient Greeks awarded horseshoe-shaped laurel wreaths to victors of competitions. In our logo, the laurel wreath symbolizes our victory in Christ.

The banner was a method of announcing an official proclamation. Our banner proclaims that we are "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus."

2020 Report to the Districts Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LWML Sunday 2020

Kingdom People Produce Kingdom Fruit

The kingdom of God will be ... given to a people producing its fruits (Matthew 21:43)

Rev. Larry Krueger is a native Texan and a graduate of The University of Texas in Austin with a BBA in Management in 1978. Before enrolling in the seminary in 1982, he was employed by Texas Instruments in Temple, Texas and Tubular Services, Inc. in Houston. He received his Master of Divinity degree in 1986 from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

He and his wife Sally were married in August of 1984. He has served in a variety of pastoral roles in Oklahoma, Illinois, Missouri, and Texas. His ministry experiences have included conventional sole and associate pastor roles, campus missionary, conference speaker, and Assistant to the President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

He was most recently serving as an Associate Pastor at Concordia Lutheran Church in San Antonio. He is today being installed as Senior Pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waco, Texas.

Important Deadlines

August 15, 2020 – Nominations for LWML Officers and Nominating Committee. Send to: nominations@lwml.org

September 30, 2020 – LWML Mission Grants Proposals. Send to: depg@lwml.org

March 1, 2021 – Names of Certified 2021 LWML Convention Delegates and Alternates. Send to: secretary@lwml.org

March 31, 2021 – 2019-2021 Biennium Financial Books Close. Mite donations must be postmarked by March 31, 2021.

A Message About COVID-19 from our National LWML President:

The Board of Directors (BOD) of the LWML continues to give the seriousness of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) due consideration. The best way to avoid the spread of COVID-19, or any germs or illnesses, is to follow guidelines issued by state and federal authorities. We encourage all of God's people to pray for those who have been affected by this, for the resources to combat this illness and provide a vaccine or cure, and for the Lord to open the hearts of His people so all can see the Lord's hand in the actions of Christians towards their neighbors.

As local, zone, and district gatherings are canceled, LWML encourages everyone to continue to collect and send in their mite offerings (and offerings to their local congregations). The needs of His people continue. Giving our mission dollars and praying for grant recipients gives glory to God and takes our minds off of difficulties we may be experiencing. We will also see many people struggle as their income decreases because of lost job opportunities. We encourage women and men who are able, to increase their mission offerings to meet the possible shortfall in mission giving that may happen at this time.

Lutheran Women in Mission can take a proactive approach! Look around you and be of service to those who need help in your church and community. There are those that need help buying groceries, picking up medication, getting their mail, etc. Rally your LWML group to establish a system to identify those in need and reach out to them, pray with them and for them, and offer to run errands.

Luke 12:22 reads, *"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life ... Continuing in verse 25, "And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?"* Jesus instructs that we not be anxious and He shares exactly what we should do. *"Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys"* (and dare I say where no virus attacks). *For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also"* (Luke 12:33-34).

Always remember we are **Held** by HIS Word, **Inspired** to share Christ's message, and **Surrounded** by HIS grace. In every situation, we rest in the knowledge that we are **HIS!**

Serving Christ, surrounded by HIS grace,
President Debbie Larson and the LWML Board of Directors





Orphan Grain Train Mid-Atlantic Branch Features Our Sewing Circle!



Our friends at Orphan Grain Train Mid-Atlantic Branch highlighted our [Sewing Circle Servant Event](#) in their quarterly newsletter and on their website! The Sewing Circle was held on February 15, 2020 at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Mountain Lakes. You can read their article about our event in their [Spring/Summer 2020 newsletter](#) and visit their [website](#) for another [article highlight](#). We were also featured in Orphan Grain Train's national newsletter and on their [Facebook page](#)!

To learn how you can support Orphan Grain Train Mid-Atlantic Branch as a volunteer or financially, please visit our [website](#).

LWML BIBLE STUDIES

Did you know we have links to LWML Bible studies on our website? Go to our website at <https://lwmlnj.org/>, click the [Resources](#) menu at the top of the page, click [LWML NJ Resources](#) and scroll down to [Bible Studies](#).

There are links and downloads to many Bible Studies that you can select for your next individual or group Bible Study. Looking for a Bible Study from last year's Lutheran Women's Quarterly (LWQ)? There's a link to that! Looking for Donna Snow's latest Video Bible Study on Overflowing Abundance? It's there! Check it out!



Mark Your LWML Calendars!		
Date	Time	Event
Aug 15, 2020	10am – 12noon	Virtual Delegates Meeting via Zoom to review Delegate Information for the Convention
Aug 22, 2020	Open all day for voting	Delegates vote on Mission Grants, Bylaws, and Officer Elections
Aug 29, 2020	10am – 12:30pm	LWML New Jersey District Convention Theme: Living Water – John 7:38 Virtual Meeting via ZOOM; Election results
Oct. 18, 2020	3:00pm – 5:00pm	Lakeland Zone Fall Rally Virtual Meeting via ZOOM
Nov. 7, 2020	10am – 12noon	New Jersey District Fall Retreat Virtual Meeting via ZOOM
June 24-27, 2021	All day programming	National LWML Convention Lexington, KY Theme: “Running the Race... Looking to Jesus” Heb. 12:1-2

Check out our Website and Facebook Page for LWML NJ District!

Follow us and “Like” us on Facebook at facebook.com/NJLWML!
Check out our website at www.lwmlnj.org

Send pictures of your society’s events and activities for our website and Facebook page to Ola Odedele, our New Jersey District Public Relations Director, at olajumoke.odedele@gmail.com. Include a caption with pictures that identifies everyone in the picture. We will feature these on our Facebook page.





Prayer Requests:

Please keep the following people in your prayers. Additional prayer requests can be emailed to arlene.lwml@optimum.net for inclusion in the next newsletter. These can be prayers of thanksgiving or prayers for physical/spiritual needs. Thank you!



- **A prayer for all the frontline responders**, from the healthcare professionals, paramedics, police, firemen, delivery people, grocery store and pharmacy workers, to all essential personnel, who are risking their lives to help all of us during this pandemic. Lord, keep them safe.
- **A prayer that a safe and effective vaccine** will soon be found for COVID-19 to bring this pandemic to an end. Be with all the researchers and scientists who are working towards this goal.
- **A prayer** for all those who mourn the loss of loved ones from COVID-19, and also a prayer for all those recovering from COVID-19. May God keep them in His tender loving care.
- **A prayer of Thanksgiving from St. John, Bridgeton**, as they recently installed their new Pastor, the Rev. Jared Cooksey and welcomed him and his family to Bridgeton! God is good!
- **A prayer for Our Savior – Stanhope** as they begin the call process for a new pastor. May God supply the right shepherd for His flock.
- **A prayer** for all those people in the destructive path of Hurricane Isis. We also pray for the workers who are clearing debris and trying to restore power in the northeast.
- **A prayer** for California residents who have lost their homes to fires. Be with the firemen who are working to put out the fires and keep them safe.



LWML New Jersey District Executive Committee

Susan Harnos

709 Amherst Road
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734
Email: seharnos@verizon.net

President – NJ District

*Home ph: 609-971-9786
Cell ph: 732-597-6103



Leslie Vergallito

10 Brookview Road
Denville, NJ 07834
Email: lvergallito@verizon.net

VP – Christian Life

*cell ph: 732-598-1847



Caren Vogt

251 Wheatsworth Road
Hamburg, NJ 07419
Home Email: seevogt46@yahoo.com

VP – Gospel Outreach

Home ph: 973-827-7437
*Cell ph: 973-222-2152



Alicia Starrett

214 Route 46, P.O. Box 321
Vienna, NJ 07889
Email: aliciastarrett@yahoo.com

Secretary

*Cell ph: 908-500-6395



Brenda Breza

420 Chestnut Drive
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734
Email: auditraner2@aol.com

Treasurer

Home ph: 609-693-7602
Cell ph: 609-618-4527



Christy Ndem

P.O. Box 272
Peapack, NJ 07977-0272
Email: csndm@aol.com

VP- Special Focus Ministries

*Home ph: 908-719-7762
Cell: 908-392-5549



Rev Rick Vossler

3 Berkeley Terrace
Livingston, NJ 07039
Email: GLCFamilyPastor@gmail.com

Pastoral Counselor

Grace Lutheran– Livingston, NJ
Home ph: 973-992-2843
*Cell: 973-303-8250



Rev Matt Hass

703 Western Blvd
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734
Email: pastormatt@villagelutheranchurch.net

Pastoral Counselor

Village Lutheran Church
Cell: 203-980-9288



*preferred phone number