



A Drop – A Pledge of Service

The LWML pledge mentions our Savior’s dying love and His blood bought gift of redemption. The LWML logo features a drop of blood beneath the cross, which is a reminder of this pledge to give willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us.



April begins a new fiscal year in Nebraska North LWML. By the end of March we are supposed to have reached the mission grant goal for the previous biennium, and begin looking forward to convention and the selection of new mission grants. This has not been the case in recent years, as extra mites have been collected at convention to catch up for the previous biennium. For this biennium as of this writing in mid-April, there is one more mission grant remaining, which will be given to Camp Luther for mission leader development. The grant is to be used for repairs and development of the challenge course at Camp Luther. This camp experience develops leadership skills, which are believed to be one of the best indicators for success as a missionary leader.

Prior to grants being paid, there must be an assurance that the purpose of the grant continues to be for the project as requested. Our district mission grants are paid in the order of the number of votes each received at convention, as mites are received and as money is available, so projects can certainly change before the grant is paid. Occasionally the need for a grant is no longer needed when the money is available to pay the grant. This happened recently with the mission grant for Columbus Lutheran Hispanic Ministry, and resulted in the district being able to move forward instead to the next two mission grants.

These two grants which were recently paid were to the Lutheran Heritage

Foundation for Spanish Bibles with Small Catechisms, and to Shepherd’s Canyon for healing retreats for professional church workers.

There will be 8 mission grant requests on the ballot at convention in June. The delegates will have access to some information about these prior to convention, and the convention manuals will have information for each. The need is great!

Thank God for mites, and the missionaries near and far--in willing service for His blood bought gift of redemption!

VP Gospel Outreach

Betty Poppe
1380 County Road C
Scribner, NE 68507
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betlowpop@gmail.com



Purple Auction

There will be a **purple auction** at the Nebraska North LWML Convention this June. Proceeds from the auction will go toward our mite goal. Bring your money!!

Items on the auction will be donated from your LWML Executive Board ... there will be many wonderful, useful items. Some will be homemade, some will be purple, some will be big and some small. The silent auction will run from Friday morning to Saturday morning.

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**President
Crystal Miller**
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Pure Purple Crystal

Gift of the Drop



Take a look at the new LWML Logo – that drop in the middle of the heart – what does it make you think of? It is intended to symbolize – Christ’s blood – shed for each of us. It may also make you think of baptism and how Christ washed away our sins through Holy Baptism. But again, if Christ’s blood had not been shed for us, then baptism would be little more than water and a ceremony. But the drops of blood that Christ shed on the cross, makes the drops of water and the Word that cover us in baptism one of God’s great gifts to his chosen people.


I don’t know about you, but it sometimes takes my breath away when I contemplate the great gifts that God gives us – his sinful, yet chosen people. Every time I contemplate, really step back and think about how flawed I am, I am amazed that he chose me to be a believer, to be a member of his Church, to be a baptized child of God, to be a member of the LWML, to serve as a District President. And then there is that wonderful word – Grace. Jesus shed those drops of blood, not because we are, were or will be worthy, but because he loves us that much. As humans we’re always trying to do more, and we fail miserably. What does God tell us about our failures? One way he does it is in a set of verses in 2 Corinthians where the Apostle Paul had a messenger of Satan. He (Paul) pleaded with God to take it away. At no time do we (as readers) get to know what the messenger was. Was it a pet sin, was it a person, was it a temptation, was it chocolate, was it wine, was it gossip, was it worry? Well as the reader, we don’t get to know. God by not telling us, tells us that the detail of what Satan’s messenger was is not important for the solution. What the Lord says to Paul is “my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. God did not take this “bad” thing away (isn’t that how we as humans would solve a problem?) and make Paul’s life easier. He told him “I’ve given you grace – and that is enough” (*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in your weakness.*) Paul responds to this by boasting of his weakness and in verse 10 it says “*For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weakness, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*”

As I write this final article as District President, I am reminded of all of the grace that God has granted me. Grace to choose me as his child, grace to grant me a home in his kingdom, grace to grant me everlasting life and grace through each of you as I made mistakes along the way, even grace when the *Leaguer* article is late (which this one is). He (Jesus) and you have blessed me every step of the way and for that I don’t have adequate words to say “Thank You!”

The one final thing I will ask of each of you. Reach out to one or two or six of the women who come to church and are not a part of LWML, or maybe a friend who doesn’t go to church at all, and with a lot of grace, invite them to become a part of what God is doing through you and through the LWML. That may not be sitting in a business meeting, but it may be in Bible study, it may be service to one another, it may be in fellowship. We can’t know what the future format of LWML will look like, but I promise God will surprise you with abundant grace and bless your efforts for his purpose. Go ahead – give it a try – invite someone!

Calendar of Events

Pre-Convention BOD Meeting, Norfolk..... June 21st – 3:30 p.m.
Prayer Service, Norfolk..... June 21st – 5:00 p.m.
Nebraska North District Convention, Norfolk June 22-23
Fall Zone Rallies September - October
District Board Retreat, Camp Calvin Crest, Fremont.....October 5-7
Assembly of Leaders, St. Louis..... November 7-10



Pen Pointers
Send all news items and sharp color or black and white photos to:
Linda Dammann, 1115 Carriage Rd.,
Papillion, NE 68046-2803 (402) 290-4524
lssddam1@gmail.com
Leaguer deadline: July 15, 2018

Rock-a-thon



The second annual Nebraska North LWML Rock-a-thon is off and running. Get out and gather your pledges – ask your church, your family and your friends to support our Mission Grants by pledging to the LWML Rock-a-thon. Rocking will happen on the convention floor at convention. Be creative – ask for people to support you while you are rocking.

At the 2016 Convention – God provided enough pledges to pay for one of our Mission Grants along with the 25% of Mites that assist in paying the nationally selected mission grants. Let's see if we can increase our pledges and collections for the 2018 Rock-a-thon.

Please collect all of your pledges and bring them with you to convention. Pledge forms can be found on the Nebraska North LWML website, and will be available for each society from your Zone Presidents.

VP Christian Life LaDonna Stanosheck



701 N. Maple
Osmond, NE 68765
402-748-3843
lmstano@gmail.com

Drop = Love

“But the greatest of these is love.” Jesus told us what the top rule was: love one another, as I have loved you. Love freely and generously. The drop that is on our new LWML logo can represent several ideas; the drop of Jesus blood that he so freely and lovingly gave for us or the drop of water lovingly placed on

the head during Holy Baptism. Both thoughts go back to love, forgiveness, grace and mercy. All the things Christ extends to us, through the death and resurrection of our Savior.

We recently celebrated Easter with joy and hope and gratefulness. What greater love can ever be found, that Jesus would die for me, a poor, miserable sinner. He died for me WHILE I was a sinner. Not after I had repented or asked forgiveness, but while I was still sinning. And while I am still sinning.

May we look at that drop on our logo and be reminded how Jesus' death and resurrection have our lives with love, mercy, and kindness that we show others,. May we always think of that drop, that love, when we work through LWML to extend kindness and mercy and Christ's love to the world, through our mites, our actions and our prayers.

Convention Entertainment – Open to the public!

Entertainment at convention will be a musical comedy entitled **The Church Basement Ladies**. This play, set in the 1950s, takes a humorous look at what it means to “Grow up Lutheran” through the ladies who work in the basement of a church cooking meals for church functions. ***This performance will begin at 7:00 p.m. on June 22, at Lutheran High Northeast.*** A free-will offering will be collected during intermission of the performance, and all proceeds will fund mission grants funded by the LWML. Cast members for this performance are a group from West Point, Nebraska. The play was presented in the community of West Point last fall.

Anyone interested in attending, can join the convention body at 6:00 p.m. for supper. Meal reservations will be taken by **LaDonna Stanosheck at the cost of \$9.95/meal. Deadline for meal reservations is June 1st. There will be no exceptions.**

Meal reservation requests and payment can be sent to **LaDonna at 701 N. Maple, Osmond, NE 68765**. Please feel free to advertise this opportunity in your church bulletins and other community newsletters.



But YOU are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9).

Bring your Teens with you to Convention

Deaconess and CPH Author, Heidi Goehmann will lead our LWML YOUTH in Mission through portions of her “All Together Beautiful” Bible study. This bible study was recently released by Concordia Publishing House (CPH) and this is a wonderful opportunity for young women to dig into the Word and see how God views them as beautiful.

Teens will also be able to participate in Servant Events, Interest Sessions and voting for their very own Mission Grant. Teens are not required to pay registration fees, but do need to pay for their meals. Housing is not provided.

Societies – reach out to some of your congregational teens and bring them with you – to see what LWML is all about and spend some time learning how to be beautiful in God’s eyes.

Financial Need Assistance Scholarships!

If you or someone you know is unable to attend District LWML convention because of Financial need there is now the opportunity to apply for Financial Need Assistance through the Nebraska North District. 10 awards of \$100 each have been set aside for those in financial need.

Steps to applying for this award:

- Complete the Application Information
- Mail applications to Karla Koehler, PO Box 35, Wausa, NE 68786
- Upon notification of the award – register for convention – letting the convention registrar know that your expenses (up to \$100 will be covered by the District). Any remaining funds from the \$100 after registration and meals will be given to you in the form of a check on the first day of convention).
- Come to convention – enjoy all that God has planned for you and the rest of the convention body!

Application instructions are available on the Nebraska North LWML Website.

A Drop of God’s Love For You

*“Love bears all things . . . endures all things. Love never ends . . . So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; **but the greatest of these is love.**” (1 Corinthians 13:7-8, 13).*

This text from St. Paul is one of the go to verses of the Bible if you want to know what love is all about. So often we think of these verses as referring to our relationships with other people. To be sure that is true. We are to love our neighbor and to seek his or her welfare. But love is only possible in Christ. St. John says, **“We love because he first loved us”** (1 John 4:19). We see how much Christ loves us, all the way to the cross. He is the picture of love bearing all things and enduring all things for you. He has borne the guilt of our sins, and endured the wrath of God on the cross for you. Love is the greatest because God’s love for you endures for all eternity.

A drop of blood that Jesus shed was a drop of God’s love for you! This is the part of the new LWML logo that we are focusing on this month. It is the blood of Jesus that washes over us in Holy Baptism. It reminds us that we are adopted by God and made a part of His family as we were baptized **“in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”** We have received God’s forgiveness, grace and mercy as we are cleansed from each spot and stain caused by sin.

Each day as we remember our Baptism, we ponder the drop of God’s love for us. We understand that this drop of love is not limited to us but is meant to be shared. God’s love for us and the world is not limited to a drop but rather it flows like a river over us and through us to those with whom we share the Gospel. Praise be to Christ!



**Pastoral
Counselor's
Message**
Pastor Marcel Kohlmeyer
230 Cherry St, P.O. Box 217
Orchard, NE 68764
402-893-2390
revkohlmeyer@hotmail.com

National 2017-2019 Biennium

Mission Goal: \$2,075,000

#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 – Christian Families United for Progress	\$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 – Lutheran Church 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 Office of 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

District Mission Grant Goal for 2016 – 2018. \$87,000

- Mission Central Current Missionary Need – The Time is Now *paid* \$10,000
 - At Ease – Ministry for Veterans, Active Military and their Loved Ones *paid*..... \$10,000
 - Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank *paid* \$6,000
 - Widow’s Self Employment Project – Milk Society *paid* \$2,000
 - Columbus Lutheran Hispanic Ministry (*not needed*) . \$10,000
 - Spanish Bibles with Small Catechism for the Americas *paid*..... \$7,500
 - Professional Church Workers in Crisis Retreat *paid*.... \$3,500
 - Camp Luther Mission Leader Development..... \$9,000
- 2016-2017 Scholarships *paid* \$14,500
- 2017-2018 Scholarships \$14,500

Young Women Representatives

District Youth Gathering Servant Event Support *paid*.. \$2,016

Teen LWML

Camp Luther – His Kids Scholarships for Campers *paid* \$216

Send your mites to:
 Shelley Freudenburg
 700 W Omaha Ave., Ste B
 Norfolk, NE 68701
Shell844@telebeep.com
Please include the voucher.

Mite Updates

(see the convention report in June for updates on the financials)



Gifts from the Heart

As we start to make plans for the Nebraska North District Convention, June 21-23, 2018 let us open our hearts and remember those in need. Our in-gathering, Gifts from the Heart, this convention year have been designated for Bright Horizons in O'Neill, NE and Ainsworth, NE. Bright Horizons is a place where women can go, either alone or with their children when they leave their home and need a safe place for shelter. Bright Horizons is such a place and assists them with their needs and helps lends them with a helping hand. With our giving hearts and hands we can help minister to these individuals in their time of need by collecting items that Bright Horizons provides these women and children.

Paper Products:

- ♥ Paper Towels
- ♥ Toilet Tissue
- ♥ Kleenex
- ♥ Napkins

Cleaning Supplies:

- ♥ Clorox Wipes
- ♥ Bleach
- ♥ Laundry Detergent
- ♥ Fabric Softener
- ♥ Pine Sol, Mr. Clean, Ammonia, etc.
- ♥ Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Non-Perishable Food Items:

- ♥ Canned Fruits (always very short on these)
- ♥ Dry cereal (always short on these)
- ♥ Pancake mix (always short on this)
- ♥ Pancake syrup
- ♥ Macaroni, dry noodles, dry spaghetti noodles
- ♥ Spaghetti sauce
- ♥ Alfredo sauce
- ♥ Pizza sauce
- ♥ Canned Meats: Tuna, Chicken, Beef, etc.
- ♥ Tuna and Hamburger Helper



Seek & Serve Day

At our Seek and Serve day, a joint event of Nebraska North and Nebraska South Districts, we made or collected 222 colorful pillow cases and 135 memory blankets. Serving God's people in nursing homes, assisted living centers and Bright Horizons. And helping our Pastors minister to those grieving the loss of a baby.



Convention Offerings

1. Mite Goal
2. Scholarships and Camp Luther
3. Jana Ingelhart, Missionary Serving in Latin America



Convention Personalities:

- Key Note Speaker: Donna Pyle
- Mission Speaker: Rev. Brent Smith
- Proclaimer: President Richard Snow
- Music: Julie Maaske
- Entertainment: The Church Basement Ladies
- Humorous Interruptor: Fanny
- **YOUTH in mission** by Deaconess Heidi Goehmann



Servant Events:

- Bible Marking
- Fleece Quilt Making
- Note cards for Phil's Friends
- Fleece Scarves
- Orphan Grain Train -sorting clothes
- Witness Bracelets

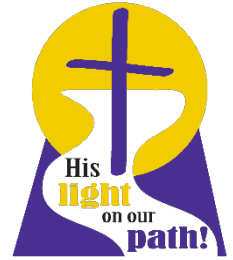
We need people to bring:

- Scissors for cutting material
- Christian Stickers for making cards

One of the Interest Sessions

"The Entire History of Hymns (in 60 Minutes or Less)" with Rev. Robert Mayes

Nebraska North LWML
2018 Young Woman Representative Invitation



Name of YWR Applicant (please print)

_____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____, Nebraska Zip Code _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Email _____

Church Name, City _____ Zone Name _____

I, _____ (name), desire to participate as a Young Woman Representative at the 2018 Nebraska North District Lutheran Women's Missionary League Convention, being held at Lutheran High Northeast High School, 2010 North 37th Street, Norfolk, June 22-23, 2018.

The Nebraska North District convention theme is "His Light on Our Path" based on Psalm 119:105 "*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path*" and Isaiah 2:5 "*O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.*" With this theme, what do you hope to learn? The LWML motto is "*Serve the Lord with Gladness*" (Psalm 100:2). You may incorporate this into your response. Use the back or a separate sheet for adequate space.

I have been invited by

_____ My LWML Group, Church, City, Zone

_____ A Nebraska North Board Member

_____ or Myself with the Lord's blessing

Mail this completed form to: Connie Wobken
Servant Resources
1180 U Road
Wisner, NE 68791

Questions?
Email: rocowo@gpcom.net
Telephone: (402) 528-3640

**Reminder! Convention Registration forms and fees will also need to be submitted separately. Approach your local LWML group(s) and ask them if they have financial resources to fund your trip to convention. Registration forms will be located in the District Newsletter - *The Leaguer* and also available on the Nebraska North LWML Website (<http://lwmlnebraskanorth.org>).

**Nebraska North District
Lutheran Women's Missionary League
39th Biennial Convention
June 22-23, 2018**

Lutheran High Northeast
2010 North 37th Street
Norfolk, Nebraska

Registration Deadline: June 1, 2018

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

(Emergency Contact Name/Number) (Church & Town, Society, Zone)

Special Needs, including diet:

Are you a first-time attendee to Convention? Yes No

Registration Fees:

Convention Registration Fee	\$42.00	\$ _____
<i>(Manual, speakers, servant events, etc.)</i>		
Late Registration Fee	\$50.00	\$ _____
Friday Lunch	\$ 6.75	\$ _____
Friday Evening Dinner	\$ 9.95	\$ _____
Saturday Lunch	\$ 6.75	\$ _____
Total Payment Enclosed with this Form:		\$ _____

Mail completed form with payment to:

Nebraska North District LWML
Karen Peters
808 South Clark St.
Bloomfield, NE 68718
Questions to Karen at: peters@gpcom.net or 402-373-2597
No refunds after June 5, 2018

Housing Information
You are responsible for making your own hotel arrangements. Housing information is available online at Norfolk Area Visitors Bureau at www.VisitNorfolkNE.com.



Attending Convention as (✓ one):

- LWML Member Delegate
- LWML Member (non-delegate)
- Board of Directors
- Past District President
- Delegate Alternate
- Young Women Representative
- Exhibitor
- Guest
- Teen LWML (no registration fee)
- Pastor (no registration fee)

Don't Forget to BYO – B & CP

- Bring your own to convention:
- bag to carry all your goodies from convention home
 - chair pad for the folding chairs

Delegates & YWR's:

- **Delegate** – As designated by your society
- **Young Women Representatives (YWR's)** complete application and send to VP Servant Resources, Connie Wobken