



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LEAGUER

Website: lwmlnebraskanorth.org
Facebook: Nebraska North District LWML

Winter 2019, Volume 16, Issue 6

Joy Notes from Lisa

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New Eyes for Jesus.....as we prepare for our 2020 convention, we are focusing our eyes on Jesus.

Our theme is Let us Fix our Eyes on Jesus....and Hebrews 12:2 is our theme verse, Bible Study Leader Pastor Barry Williams, Proclaimer President Richard Snow of NE District LCMS, National LWML President Debbie Larson, Keynote Speaker Deb Burma, Teen Leader Heidi Goehmann, Music Leader Hannah Nunnenkamp-Engelman, Purple Auction, Mission Speakers, Humorous Interrupter NE South President Katy Gifford, Displays, new elected officers, new mission grants, Host Church Peace Lutheran Columbus, Host Zones Fremont and Columbus Zone, Mission Grants, Offerings, LWML store, and zone banners as quilts. So many things to Fix our Eyes on Jesus. Where will your EYES be? What part of our convention will help you Fix Your Eyes on Jesus?

Our New Eyes for Jesus will be preparing us for a great convention, focusing our eyes on Jesus, listening to our great mission speakers, listening and participating in Bible study, fellowship with our friends, and listening to our National LWML President Debbie Larson as she shares what is happening in LWML.

New Eyes for Jesus as we learn where is the Lord leading us in the NE North LWML and who will be our new leaders and new mission grants. God is preparing us with our New Eyes and where He wants us to serve Him. What an awesome experience this will be.

New Eyes for Jesus is a great time to invite new friends and invite your pastors to the convention. I would love to meet new people and love to have as many pastors as we can. We want all people to know about the mission of the NE North LWML and for them all to be excited for the LWML.

NEW EYES FOR JESUS.... what does this mean for you?



2019 RETREAT

How can we share in the Mission of LWML?



SCHOLARSHIPS

What are your Mites doing through Lutheran Churchworker Scholarships?



2020 DISTRICT CONVENTION

What is planned for convention?



LWML SUNDAY

How did you celebrate?

2020 District Convention Highlights



LWML Representative:
National LWML President
Debbie Larson



Key Note Speaker:
Christian Writer and
Speaker
Deb Burma



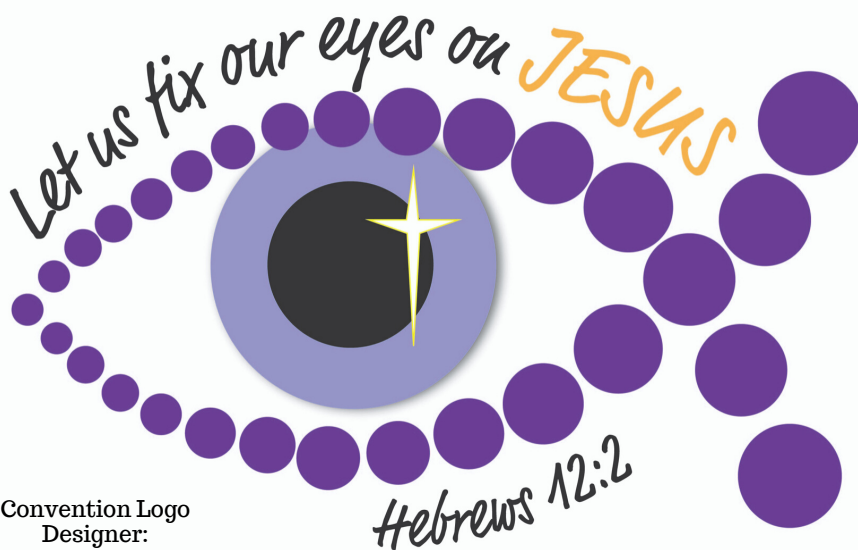
Proclaimer:
LCMS Nebraska
District President
Rev. Richard Snow



Teen Leader:
Deaconess
Heidi Goehmann



Convention Chairmen:
Joan Plummer - Columbus Zone (Rt)
Rachel Jensen - Fremont Zone (Lft)



Convention Logo
Designer:
Cheyanne Fowlkes, YWR
to Mobile



Music Leader:
Hannah Neunenkaamp-Engelman



Bible Study Leader:
Sr. Pastoral Counselor
Rev. Barry Williams



Humorous Interruptor:
Nebraska South District President
Katy Gifford

More 2020 District Convention Information

Hotel Information

Ramada Inn - Columbus Nebraska
Phone: 402-564-1492
Make your reservations now!

Cost: \$104.97/room for 2 occupants
\$10/night for each additional occupant
Breakfast Buffet included

**Note: Hotel does not have elevators - request a main floor room if you are unable to navigate stairs.

T-Shirt Information

The convention T-Shirt order form is at the end of the Leaguer! The design on the back is pictured to the right! There will be a small LWML pocket design on the front.

Share with your society, and let's each order a t-shirt and share our witness with the world.



2018-2020 Biennium - Mission Goal - \$75,000

Remain to be paid

Seminary Education for New Pastors in South Sudan - \$7,500

Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support (PALS) Curriculum Resources - \$1,500 (partial)

Paid

Scholarships - \$30,000

Mission Central - Missionary Support - \$10,000

Jesus Our Savior Preschool Tuition Assistance - \$10,000

Financial Assistance for Food and Clothing Co-op - Fort Wayne Seminary - \$10,000

Chaplain Scholarships for Medical Mission Trips - \$6,000

Young Women Representatives - UNO On-Campus Outreach Events - \$2,018

Youth in Mission - His Kids Camp Scholarship to Camp Luther - \$218



2019 Mobile Convention Delegation and photos from convention

National Mission Goal



\$2,100,000

21 New Grants!



Shelley Freudenburg, Financial Secretary

shelld844@gmail.com

Memorials From:

Wayne & Charlotte Blunk
 Omaha Zion Lydia
 Lorna Hollman
 Bancroft St. Paul Alter Guild
 Omaha Zion Lydia
 Plattsmouth Firsth Lutheran Ladies Guild
 Omaha Zion Lydia
 Laurel Immaunel Lutheran Women's Society

For:

Nila Schuttler
 Margaret Behrendt
 Alice Rabe
 Stella Puls
 Ann Neuhaus
 Delphine Glup
 Shirley Lang
 Doris Sohler

Mite Offerings

From Societies:

- \$12,861.84

From Donations:

- \$100.00

From Memorials:

- \$185.00

From Special Offerings:

- \$451.76

Board Retreat

- \$75.00



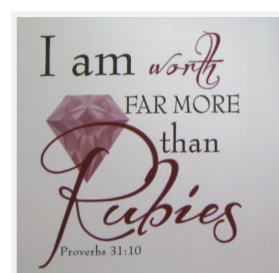
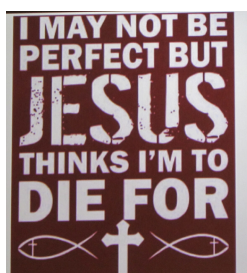
2019 District Retreat -

On October 12, 2019 one hundred twenty individuals and various societies of the LWML Nebraska North District met at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Norfolk. The Norfolk Zone hosted this event using talents of Zone members as we “fixed our eyes” on Jesus under the theme of I Peter 4, specifically 8-12. Gifts of the heart collections were available for mites, Ft. Wayne/St. Louis Seminary Food Banks, and Gift Cards for the Veteran’s Home in Norfolk totaling over \$1000. A light morning breakfast was served as greetings were extended to one another. A time of singing was led by Jill McElhose and Carol Taylor. Zone President, Monique Wolske welcomed the attendees. Pastor Lee Weander of Our Savior, Norfolk then guided the group through I Peter 4. A report from Norfolk Zone Delegate, Sarah Tillmann, was shared about the LWML National Convention in Mobile, AL. Lisa Stirtz, District President announced current updates from National LWML and District information. A catered lunch followed.

Keynote Speaker, Molly Dixon, NE South presented her thoughts of “Lutheran Women ON a Mission to a Lutheran Woman IN Mission.” A short LWML skit, “Love in Action” was enacted by several women of the Zone. Chaplain, Major Chad Boggs, Immanuel Tilden spoke on his recent time of deployment and how his congregation helped to support he and his family at home during the months he was gone.

Vicar Ryan Maser, Zion, Pierce gave insight into life of a seminarian/vicar as he and his wife, Kari, prepare for their future time in church ministry. His directives for all to look for ways to encourage men to consider full time pastoral ministry was timely met. Directly afterwards, Vicar Maser led the group in a closing; Senior District Pastoral Counselor Barry Williams ended our event with prayers requested from various individuals that day.

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” I Peter 4: 12



Joyce Buethe - Vice-President of Gospel Outreach

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New Eyes.

What can be seen with or through new eyes. This last June I had cataract surgery. What a difference that day made. Reading is easier, sewing is easier. The sight in that eye is so clear now. The things I'm looking at haven't changed but how I see them is way different. Over time LWML has and continues to change. As far as I know there aren't many of us wearing hats and gloves to our meetings. Some of our groups are mainly bible study and very little of the traditional meeting - no roll call and maybe even no coffee and treats. Change is hard but is also inevitable if we are going to continue as a thriving group. At convention we heard from numerous previous grant recipients. Lynn Corker SEES life through new eyes as she serves women in Uganda through the "Women of the Pearl" ministry. She was certain she could talk God out of her going on that first trip to Uganda. She came to SEE that God's plans and ours aren't always the same. Our YWR's bring varied gifts to us. It will be exciting to see what these young women will bring to our groups.

P.S. Don't forget! There's plenty of time yet to submit Mission Grant proposals. The guidelines are on the website. Look around and consider writing a grant proposal for a mission in your church, community or area of interest.

LaDonna Stanosheck - Vice-President of Christian Life

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(402) 360-5202

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus. Easy to say, not always easy to do. I have problems that need to be fixed! No, I need to fix my eyes on Jesus and let Him help me. But I can't just sit around and do nothing! Praying and fixing our eyes on Jesus is NOT doing nothing. I remember when I had cataract surgery. I had to sign a release form in case I ended up blind!!! What??? Ok, fix my eyes on Jesus and He will guide the surgeon's hand. And a day later, I could much more clearly fix my eyes on Jesus with improved vision. Major life changing events have occurred for me and I don't know what I would have done, if I didn't have Jesus to focus on and lead me through dark times. But with my eyes on Him, the light became brighter and with "new eyes" I face the future and look to Jesus for what He has in store for my life now. I sometimes envy the new Christian believer. Those "new eyes" of theirs, focused on Jesus, make them so joyful. I need to get back that joy filled focus and look only to Jesus. May I always fix my eyes on Jesus, whose Word gives me 2020 vision for my salvation.

Jr. Pastoral Counselor

Pastor Cory Burma, Peace,
Columbus has been
appointed

Pastor Ryan Eden
took a call to Redeemer
Lutheran, Winona, MN

District Groups in Service to others!



Good Shepherd, Gretna
Monday Night LWML -
packed 66 Blessing Bags
for the Least of My
Breathern.

Virginia VonSeggern - Past President Lutheran Women's Missionary League

New Eyes....I love the theme of this Leaguer for I have new eyes! After having cataracts removed during August, I really have new eyes. I can see you much better, and can also see the music more clearly! What about your eyes?

Do you see new opportunities to perhaps involve your LWML group in? Does your organization need a little encouragement? If so, then possibly try some new ideas.

- Try the "mailbox member" ideas that came out this past biennium
- Schedule a day to pack Mercy Meals, or perhaps work at Orphan Grain Train for a few hours
- Progressive dinners are a fun way to socialize with our Sisters in Christ. Plan a meal where participants eat a different course hosted and prepared by different people in their homes. Add a section of Bible study (divided into four parts) to be held at each stop for a fun and inspirational LWML event. The first part of the Bible study would be at the home that is serving the appetizers. Then consider soup and/or salad with the second part of the Bible study. The third home serves the main course along with the third part of the Bible study. The final section of the Bible study wraps up at the home that serves dessert.

Don't hesitate to ask some of your District Leaders for more ideas to give your society or group a little more life. Include all your younger women in the invitations to these events, it may well interest them.

It's been fun to look at my society with new eyes, now it's your turn!

Suzy Awe - Vice-President of Communication sawe@frontiernet.net (402) 659-2278

Sometimes, as a proofreader, I read thru the Leaguer and miss some of the mistakes. [I have to giggle that my computer only underlined four of those words as spelling errors.] When it gets to the end of the day and I am reading articles my eyes sometimes get blurry, weary and can't stay focused.

Blurry eyes - my eyes get blurry when I talk to my brother. He is an amazing Pastor, father, Gramps, and brother. He has been a shining light to my faith for my whole life. Each time a chemo treatment stops working or his body becomes intolerant of a different medicine...my eyes get blurry. He still shines God's Light each time we chat and laugh and he shares stories of his fabulous children and soon to be eight grandchildren. Even through tear-filled blurry eyes I can see God's Light shining through Jeff. Dear Lord, please watch over all of the families who love someone with cancer. Clear their hurting hearts and blurry eyes with your promises and mercy.

Weary eyes - I was helping our preschool out with one very energetic child who was not going to nap. He was tired but did not want to settle. He was brought to my classroom so the other littles could nap. I was reading *The Wind in The Willows* to my second and third graders. So as I sat in my chair, I had my book in one hand and the little guy's hand in my other hand. If I let go of his hand he would find mischief. So I told him I would hold his hand until he fell asleep in minutes. When my class was ready for recess and the little one was still asleep, the teacher's aid came into our room to watch over him. One of the second graders told her, "If he wakes up, just hold his hand." Dear Jesus, when life gets us so wound up I can't think straight please hold my hand until I can close my weary eyes and rest in You. Sometimes I can't stay focused, "Mom, can you please just finish one thought before going on to the next." I have heard this a few or more times.

Sometimes I have so many things on my "list" that I claim to be a multitasker when in truth I am easily distracted from one thing to the next. This gift from God has made me happy in many situations. I may be having a conversation with three students about three different things and I can often hold my own in each conversation. Yet there are times when I have to confess to someone, "I have no idea what you are asking me." Dear Father, even through the many distractions in life please help me get my focus back to You. And then, as Hebrews 12 reminds me: I "look to Jesus." Verse three adds "Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted." When I have blurry, weary or unfocused eyes. Change my focus Lord.

Lana Erickson - Scholarship Chairman

These 17 scholarship recipients were awarded a total of \$19,050 in scholarships. \$15,000 of those funds are from Nebraska North LWML mites for the 2019-2020 academic year.



Stephanie Barry
St. Mark Lutheran, Omaha
Concordia University,
Seward
4th year (Senior)

Major - PreK-12 Vocal and Instrumental Music
Education - Major, Spanish - Minor, Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Stephanie Betterton
King of Kings, Omaha
Concordia University,
Seward
4th year (Senior)

Major - Elementry Education, Spanish - Concentration
Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Mikayla Booth
Faith Lutheran, Stanton
1-year Deaconess
Fort Wayne Semianry

Master of Arts in Deaconess Studies



Hannah Fuesse
Concordia Lutheran, Omaha
Concordia University,
Seward
1st year (Freshman)

Major - Preschool Education
Church Organist
Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Nicole Harstad
Christ Lutheran, Norfolk
Concordia University,
Seward
2nd year (Sophomore)

Major - Elementary Education and Music -
Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Autumn Johnson
Good Shepherd, Fremont
Concordia University,
Seward
2nd year (Sophomore)

Major - Secondary Spanish Education and English as a Second Language (ESL)
Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Avery Kesar
 St. Mark, Omaha
 Concordia University,
 Seward
 3rd year (Junior)

Major - Music Education
 Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Vicar Carlos Mestayer
 Beautiful Savior, LaVista
 Concordia University, Irvine
 2nd Year

Major - Cross-cultural
 Pastoral Certification,
 Masters of Arts in Theology
 Plans to start a Hispanic
 LCMS Church in the
 Nebraska District



Jacob Mikkelson
 Pilgrim, Bellevue
 Concordia University,
 Seward
 4th year (Senior)

Major - Education
 Lutheran Teachers Diploma.



Drew Oswald
 Lord of Life, Elkhorn
 Concordia Seminary,
 St. Louis
 1st year

Master of Divinity



Jessica Tietz
 Zion, Bancroft
 Concordia University,
 Seward

Major - Secondary
 Education - Biology



Drew Boggs
 Immanuel, Tilden
 Concordia University,
 Seward

Director of Christian
 Education (DCE)

Scholarship recipients not pictured:

Emma Baumann
 Grace, Norfolk
 Concordia University,
 Seward

Jordan Schut
 St. Peters, Scribner
 Concordia Seminary,
 St. Louis

Kimberly Sleeper
 Lamb of God, Papillion
 Concordia University,
 Seward

Aaron Staub
 Beautiful Savior, Omaha
 Concordia Seminary,
 St. Louis

Timothy Steele II
 Zion, Omaha
 Concordia Seminary,
 Ft. Wayne

Rev. Barry Williams - Sr. Pastoral Counselor bawillia1@excite.com
(402) 841-6185

I can't say I remember when I attended my first LWML Convention. It was a District Convention. What I do remember is being amazed and thrilled at how well everyone worked together. There was not the tension that sometimes underlies church voters meetings or even a Synodical Convention. All the ladies seemed to want to get along. I was glad to see, with new eyes, Christians gathered together in peace. This peaceful collaboration is still a joy to me in the midst of a chaotic world. We've all heard the account of the woman at the well with Jesus in John 4. He asks her for a drink and then offers her living water. He proceeds to describe the brokenness of her life and open her eyes to Jesus being the Christ whom she is longing to see. She then hurries off to her village to tell them to come see the Christ. The people come and believe. What refreshment there is in seeing with new eyes, eyes that are opened by God's grace and mercy to see Jesus our Savior. There was another woman at a well who had lost hope. She had been blessed with the birth of her son and then her whole world fell apart. What had given her great joy was now causing more pain than she could bear as she found herself alone with her son in a desert with an empty water skin. But in her great distress, "God opened [Hagar's] eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink." (Genesis 21:19) New eyes to see are such a blessing. Oftentimes we look at the world around us and see a desert of evil everywhere, and indeed it is. But God has overcome the evil through His Son. Jesus opened the Samaritan woman's eyes just as he opened the eyes of her whole village and the eyes of the blind who were brought to him (Mark 8:22-26) and the eyes of the disciples at Emmaus on that first Easter. "When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?'" (Luke 24:30-32) When we look at the world through Jesus, through His death and resurrection, what a beautiful world it is. The love of the Lord for His creation and the crown of His creation becomes our love for those around us. Lord, give us new eyes to see.

Jeanette Groppe - Historian/Archivist

Fixing our eyes on Jesus.... we have so many tools for that! The Bible, Bible studies in print, online, at our church, in our homes. We have prayer books and storybooks, Christian music available on the radio, on disc, on ipods, downloads to computers. There are TV evangelists of all types. There are many false teachers in song, books and churches. You really need to keep your eyes open and your ears tuned in so you see and hear the true word and keep focused on our Lord and Savior.

BUT, years ago all that was not available. Most homes had a Bible and a prayer book and if you lived in a populated area you probably had a full-time pastor and maybe even a church building. Many relied on traveling ministers. 125 years ago on November 18, 1894, a crowd of over 1,000 gathered at the northeast side of Seward for the dedication of a new "evangelisch-lutherische Schullehrer-Seminar" (The Evangelical Lutheran School Teachers Seminary). Four men from Seward were successful in persuading the Synod to choose Seward. They offered \$8,000 dollars and twenty acres of land. They were fixing their eyes on Jesus.

By fixing their eyes on Jesus, they were looking towards educating not only their children but the children of many generations of the Bible, the steadfast love of our Lord and faith that would see them through every path their lives would take. Today, Concordia University, continues to fix their eyes on Jesus by preparing many students for full-time church work. How richly we are blessed.

(The historical information about Concordia came from the Fall 2019 Concordia Historical Institute quarterly, which is being provided to district archivists/historians as a gift.

This entire quarterly is dedicated to Concordia at Seward. If anyone is interested in more information, please contact me. - Jeanette Groppe).

LWML Sunday Celebrations

The LWMLers at Zion Lutheran Church in Plainview wanted to invite ladies from the congregation to join their Priscilla and Ladies Aid groups. After the service on LWML Sunday, flowers were handed out to every lady in attendance. The flowers had an attached invitation to "Serve the Lord with Gladness" as an LWMLer.



You are invited to be a part of:

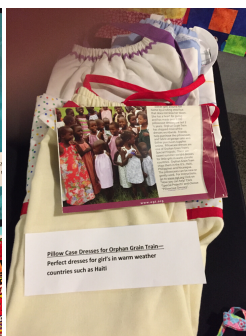
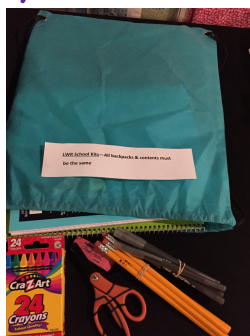
- Church Christmas Decorating
- Confirmation Partners
- Norfolk Rescue Mission
- Orphan Grain Train
- Mercy Meals
- Cleaning the Church
- Collecting Mites for Missions

Talk to an LWMLer and join the fun!
Let's Serve the Lord with Gladness!

St. John's Lutheran Joy Circle celebrated LWML Sunday with greeters, readers, flowers, special music, collecting mites, and cookies. It was a very purple day!



District Groups in Service to others!



Jesus says we are His hands, feet and voice to witness and to love people of this world. Lutheran World Relief and Orphan Grain Train are two agencies that provide humanitarian essentials around the world.

Every Fall of the year, LWML women around the nation emphasize the Lutheran World Relief projects. Groups from Nebraska and Iowa bring items to Brown Transfer Trucking Company here in Omaha who transport semi-loads of quilts and kits free of charge to the Minneapolis warehouse. King of Kings LWML has assembled 200 school kits, and will assemble about that many personal care kits. The Quilters have donated about 20 quilts for LWR and makes quilts for many, many local missions & Orphan Grain Train. Please see the display as a sample of their work.

Pray—Lord, we know that chronic poverty and conflict, drought and weather related storms result in more people needing assistance with basic needs. Even though Custom regulations do not allow us to send a note telling of you and your love for them; we pray the people that receive these quilts, school kits, and personal care kits, feel your love and give them hope. These gifts have been made by people who love you Jesus, we dedicate them in your name, to the needy people of the world. In Jesus name--Amen

Save
the
Date

Seek & Serve

- April 25, 2020 - Emmanuel Lutheran, York Nebraska North LWML District Convention
- June 26-27, 2020, Ramada Inn, Columbus, NE National LWML Convention
- June xx, 2021. Louisville, KY

NE NORTH DISTRICT 2020 APPAREL ORDER FORM



A. 50/50 Blend **UNISEX** SS Tee -
 Shirt Color: **SPORT GREY**
 YS-YXL, S - XL:
\$15.00 each
 XXL-4XL: **\$18.00 each**

Mail payments to:
River of Life Lutheran Church
 5151 NW Radial Hwy
 Omaha NE 68104

**NE NORTH DISTRICT 2020
 APPAREL ORDER FORM DUE**

JUNE 1ST, 2020

Make Checks payable to NE North District

NAME _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

| STYLE CODE | QTY | SIZE | COLOR | COST | |
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