



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

# LEAGUER

Website: [lwmlnebraskanorth.org](http://lwmlnebraskanorth.org)

Facebook: Nebraska North District LWML

Fall 2021, Volume 16, Issue 11

*Joy Notes from Lisa* [lisalwml@gmail.com](mailto:lisalwml@gmail.com)  
(402) 657-0797

## WHAT A JOY TO SERVE HIM!!

*But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.* (Psalm 130:4). Where are you serving the Lord? Where is He calling you right now or in the future. There are so many ways to serve our Lord, that they are unending but how exciting to think we can serve Him every day in all that we do. What a JOY it is to serve Him!

We saw so many people serving the Lord at the National LWML convention in Mobile, from ushers, door holders, people pushing people in wheelchairs, registration people, food servers, YWR and teens helping with the ingathering, presenters, delegates, and our BOD. What a joy it is to serve in the LWML!

But where is God calling you? Right now, in my life He is calling me to be a preschool director, a mom, a wife, a sister, an aunt, a friend, a Bible study leader, and a LWML District president. I love doing all these jobs and God is equipping me to serve Him better each day and puts people in my life to help me do each of these jobs better. When we struggle or feel defeated in one of these roles, God sends someone to help lift me up and say "You can do this job for me". And you know what, He is right, and there are so many blessings in serving in all these roles. Sometimes as I serve in these roles people come into my path, and I wonder why, but then God shows me the reason. Who has God put into your path and why? How can you help that person and how can you show love to this person? Give this all to the Lord in prayer and He is going to show you the way to help. What a wonderful loving God we have. What a JOY to serve Him!

God is love and where are you serving Him? How can you reach out to people in your home, your church, your community, your neighborhood, your office, your workplace, or in the store you go to? Keep searching those ways to serve Him, and He going to bring those opportunities to you every day. What a JOY to serve Him every day!



### SERVICE PROJECTS

Lutheran World Relief



### PASTOR INTRODUCTION

Eric Gradberg



### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Mite Offerings at Work



### NATIONAL LWML SERVICE

Interdepartmental

## Pastor Jared Hartman, Junior Pastoral Counselor

As I age, I find that my memory is not as good as it used to be. I'm only 45, but there are certain times in my life which I cannot recall. But often, the times I do recall are the painful times. The times for which I have great regret. Past sins, which continue to revisit me, when I have been unfaithful to God and to others. Other times I remember when others have sinned against me. Yet the Psalmist reminds us that if God kept a record of sins, none of us could stand (Psalm 130:3). For those in Christ, God has no memory for our sins. For the Father's only begotten Son stands between Him and his children, the faithful. Seeing his children dressed Christ's righteousness, God has no memory for our sin, and only sees His beloved children and forgives us by His Son's death upon the cross. Because we believe this, we run to Christ with reverence and serve Him ever faithful (Psalm 130:4), living in the hope and joy of the life of the world to come, comforted by His Word when our painful memories bother us. Thanks be to God.

## Jeanette Beune, Financial Secretary

bjbeune@gmail.com

### Financial Report for July 1, 2021 - September 30, 2021

Mite Offerings from Societies	\$7,836.11
Donations	\$316.05
Memorials	\$400.00
Total Mite Offerings	\$8,552.16

### Memorials - July 1 - September 30, 2021

#### From:

Laurel - Immanuel  
Laurel - Immanuel  
Rachel Jensen  
Rachel Jensen  
Columbus - Immanuel - Mission Sowers LWML  
Wayne - Grace Lutheran - Ladies Aid  
Hooper - Immanuel - Lydia Circle  
Hooper - Immanuel - Lydia Circle  
Plainview - Zion - Priscillas  
Bellevue - Pilgrim - Women of Pilgrim  
Bellevue - Pilgrim - Women of Pilgrim  
Bancroft - St. Paul - Altar Guild  
West Point - St. Paul - LWML  
LaVista - Beautiful Savior - LWML  
Omaha - St. Mark - LWML

#### For:

Wilbur Rath  
Dolores Erwin  
Lee Nielsen  
Virginia Livingston  
Vernon Korte  
Verdelle Reeg  
Orlando Mueller  
Willa Moeller  
Bruce Schlote  
Carolyn Parker  
Gloria Wilde  
Leland Mackey  
Pearl Abrahams  
Jan Rosenquist  
Evelyn Urbach

Vouchers for the societies have been mailed on September 21, 2021, to your Zone President for distribution - please let me know if you were missed by sending a request for more vouchers and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Memorials - please indicate on the voucher or a note if you want the memorial to go to mites to pay for the grants or undesignated.

Quarterlies - you will be billed according to your society reports in January, please remit your payment by February 15th. Please do not send payment until you are billed. The amounts listed on the society report is for your information only. Any changes in quantities will begin with the 2022 Summer issue.



**Send all  
Mite and Memorial Money  
to:**

**Jeanette Beune  
475 H. Road  
Wisner, NE 68791  
email: bjbeune@gmail.com**

**\*If you need additional vouchers,  
please send a self-addressed stamped  
long envelope to Jeannette and she  
will send them.**

**Thank you for your mites to fund the  
LWML Mission Projects for the  
2020-2022 biennium.**

**Please continue your prayers and financial  
support of LWML Mission Grants!**

## Interdepartmental

Three Nebraska LWML women were at the 2021 Interdepartmental meeting - October 20-23, in St. Louis where all of the National Committees and the National Board of Directors take part in planning all that LWML will develop and do during the biennium. Serving in this capacity is Karla Koehler - National LWML Treasurer, LaDonna Stanosheck - Chair of the Structure Committee, and Crystal Miller - member of the Public Relations Committee. New resources, bible studies, product and devotions will be a result of all the planning that is done at this meeting.





## King of Kings Lutheran Church, Omaha

### Lutheran World Relief and City Serve Event

Fifteen LWML members and 4 husbands did a great job packing 182 school kits for Lutheran World Relief and sorting, packing, and delivering cookies to 15 fire stations for the City Serve event. A big thank you to these volunteers and to all of you who baked the 50 dozen cookies for this City Serve event.

## Suzanne Totten Vice President of Human Care [tottens1944@gmail.com](mailto:tottens1944@gmail.com)

### Keep Calm and be Lutheran

Aren't t-shirts great? They are so versatile. Besides being inexpensive, they come in an array of colors, are easy to care for and come in sizes for everyone. And they are so-o-o comfortable. But best of all they can be used as a method for conveying positive messages or for promoting worthwhile causes. Because I wear them so much, my family and friends have gifted me with a plethora of t-shirts. Like many of my generation we request "no gifts please", but if you must, make it edible, wearable, or charitable. As a result, I have a drawerful of t-shirts for all occasions instead of a cupboard full of knickknacks, coffee cups and candles.

My newest shirt (and one of my favorites) says, "Keep Calm and Be Lutheran", so as a confirmed Lutheran I have to ask, "What does this mean?" Psalm 130:3-4 has the answer. These verses reassure me with one of God's many promises, the promise that He does not keep a record of my sins and so salvation is mine. For me, those verses say that even a lifetime of good works cannot undo a single sin I have committed. But not to worry, because Jesus erased all record of my sins with His suffering, death, and resurrection. I can start each day with a clean slate, not one of guilt and shame.

In addition, this means that I am free to do good works with a joyful heart. Time wasted trying to earn forgiveness can be spent in loving God by loving my neighbor. Each day I can ask myself, "How can I show my love and gratefulness to the Lord this day?" The ways are endless! Thank you, Lord, for this free gift, to me and all believers.

This is most certainly true!



Fremont Zone members with diaper collection for LFS in Fremont - Barbarakay Royuk, Rachel Jenson and Carol Weber

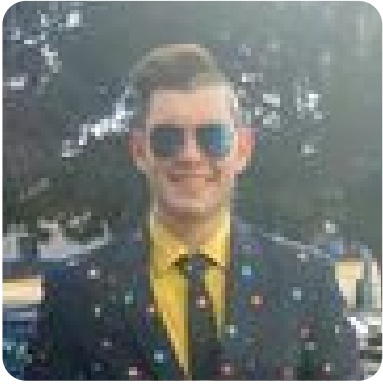
### Mission Grant Application Deadline

**December 1, 2021**

Please forward information to those who wish to apply for LWML Mission grants through the Nebraska North District.

Refer all interested parties to the Nebraska North LWML Website at [www.lwmlnebraskanorth.org](http://www.lwmlnebraskanorth.org), where the application information is available in more detail

# Peg McAllister - Scholarship Chairman



Name: Jake McKeown  
Home Church: Christ Lutheran, Norfolk  
College: Concordia University, Seward  
Degree: Lutheran Teaching Diploma  
Career Plans: Teach High School Math, Physical Education and Coaching - Football and Track Throwers



Name: Evan Hammang  
Home Church: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Arlington  
College: Concordia University, Seward  
Degree: Director of Christian Education (DCE), Minor - Theology  
Career Plans: Serve in a church as a DCE



Name: Drew Oswald  
Home Church: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Elkhorn  
College: Concordia Seminary, St. Louis  
Degree: Masters of Divinity  
Career Plans: Serve as Pastor or Teacher in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



Name: Autumn Johnson  
Home Church: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fremont  
College: Concordia University, Seward  
Degree: Lutheran Teaching Diploma  
Career Plans: Teach Spanish in middle or high school, assist church with bilingual outreach in the community



Name: Aubrey Rathke  
Home Church: Trinity Lutheran Church, Fremont  
College: Concordia University, Seward  
Degree: Lutheran Teachers Certificate and Director of Christian Education  
Career Plans: Serve as a teacher and/or a DCE



Name: Jon Bartles  
Home Church: King of Kings Lutheran Church, Omaha  
College: Concordia Seminary, St. Louis  
Degree: Masters of Divinity  
Career Plans: Serve as Pastor in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod



Name: Sara Sugita  
Home Church: Christ Lutheran, Norfolk  
College: Concordia University, Seward  
Degree: Lutheran Teachers Certificate, Early Childhood Inclusive Education degree and Special Education Endorsement  
Career Plans: Teach in a classroom where ever I am called



Name: Matthew Feusse  
Home Church: Concordia Lutheran Church, Clearwater  
College: Concordia University, Seward  
Degree: Pre-Seminary Studies  
Career Plans: Attend Seminary at Concordia Theological Seminar, Fort Wayne and serve as an LCMS pastor

## *LaDonna Stanosheck, Vice President of Communications*

[lmstano@gmail.com](mailto:lmstano@gmail.com)

### *Our Savior Lutheran Church, Norfolk*

#### **Introduction- Pastor Eric Gradberg**

Pastor Eric Gradberg is 43 years old. He was born into an LCMS family in Joliet Illinois. Baptized at Our Savior Joliet, IL (his grandparents were founding members). Confirmed at St. Paul's Kankakee, Illinois in the 90s. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Valparaiso University. Following his BA, Pastor Eric worked as a professional artist in and around Chicago for 18 years. During this time, he continued his education and received a certification as a Director of Lay Ministries (DLM) from Concordia Wisconsin in 2016. His DLM certification qualified him for the Resident Alternate Route program through Concordia, St. Louis. and completed a Master Degree in Art with a focus on Spiritual Care (with a Practical Theology emphasis).

His parents are Mark (deceased) and Kathy Gradberg of Kankakee, IL. He has two brothers and a sister, all married. Pastor Eric has been married close to 11 years to Kim. They have two children Elliana (7) and Tyler (4).

Pastor Gradberg was ordained and installed at Our Savior Norfolk on August 1, 2021.



### *Jeanette Groppe, Archivist/Historian*

[jmygrop@yahoo.com](mailto:jmygrop@yahoo.com)

#### **In Him there is forgiveness**

Do we ever get over the fear of judgment of the Lord for the things we have done wrong? Especially from the time when I was younger. Way younger. I think about some of those times and I think, if only my parents knew ... BUT the Lord does know.

For many years I felt a lot of guilt. Not only guilt for what I did and how I disobeyed the Lord, but how I would have hurt my parents had they known. I was a stinker. I don't know that I knowingly did something really bad to hurt someone else but I am sure I did and they always say your parents know more than you think they do. I tended to run off at the mouth, and I had to beg forgiveness. So yes, I am a sinner.

But this wonderful Psalm 130:3-4 tells us that we all sin and none of us could stand in His presence, but in Him there is forgiveness, ALWAYS!! Every time I feel guilty, all I do is call on Him and He forgives again. My prayer book has a whole page of sins listed and at the bottom it states, "for sins I do not know I have committed" and it is 2 columns wide. But he still forgives me. He forgives us all for what we have done, and for what we will do.

I will wait for Him. My soul waits and as I get older, I await more eagerly. I cannot imagine how much joy I will feel on that day, because although I know my sins and He knows all my sins, even the ones I don't know I committed, He will be there to welcome me with open arms. How joyful is that!

Thank you, my Lord and Savior for the blood you shed for me so I may be forgiven and spend eternity with you. Amen.

### *LWML Store*

**Sara Huwaldt has many LWML items in the District LWML store.**

**Reach out to Sara if you need anything!**

**[sara.huwaldt@hotmail.com](mailto:sara.huwaldt@hotmail.com)**

**New LWML items can be found in the National LWML Store at  
[LWML.ORG](http://LWML.ORG)**

# Lynette Koehler Vice President of Gospel Outreach

hlkoehler@ptcnet.net

## Terror vs. Joy

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? (Psalm 130:3).*

This verse makes my heart pound in terror. It calls to mind what a poor miserable sinner I am. As I get older those sins of thought, word, and deed have piled up high. This realization could be paralyzing!

But thanks be to God, I have the blessed assurance of salvation through Jesus Christ my risen Lord.

*But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared (Psalm 130:4).*

Because of God's great love we are forgiven. What a relief! I could dance with Joy! It makes me so glad, so elated I want to share that feeling with others. In appreciation for this great gift, we feel compelled to share God's love by sharing our time and talents to help others and to most importantly, spread God's words of salvation.

## Zone Reports

### Ainsworth

Date: September 25  
Number of Attendees: 17  
Speaker: Bible study -  
Pastor Bill Serr, Deaconess  
Kristy Raines on LCMS  
Deconess Program  
Location: Grace, Burton

### Omaha Tri-Zone

Date: October 18  
Number of Attendees: 38  
Speaker: Bible Study, Rev.  
Fred Simon, Rev. Jim  
Dahlke, Lutheran Heritage  
Foundation  
Location: Pilgrim Lutheran,  
Bellevue

### Columbus

Date: October 16  
Number of Attendees: 28  
Speaker: Joyce Peterson  
(Delegate - Lexington)  
and Emma Jesse (YWR -  
Lexington)  
Location: Mt. Calvary,  
Fullerton

### Norfolk

Date: October 9  
Number of Attendees: 35  
Speaker: Rev. Gordon  
Bruce bible study, Rev.  
Todd Kollbaum - rural  
ministry  
Location: Mt. Olive,  
Norfolk

### Fremont

Date: October 3  
Number of Attendees: 27  
Speaker: Bible Study -  
Pastor Sean Linnell, Blair;  
Diapers collected for LFS,  
cards written for Phil's  
Friends  
Location: St. Matthew,  
Cedar Bluffs

### Wayne

Date: October 19  
Number of Attendees: 37  
Speaker: Rev. Martin Hill -  
Bible study, Rev. Jeff  
Warner, the whole heart at  
prayer  
Location: St. Paul, Winside

### Plainview

Date: September 25  
Number of Attendees: 50  
Speaker: Pastor Jacob  
Tuma, Bible study and his  
trip to Israel  
Location: Trinity, Foster

### West Point

Date: September 27  
Number of Attendees: 44  
Speaker: Pastor Paul Flo -  
Hispanic Ministry in South  
Sioux City  
Location: St. Joh, Beemer

## Deb Gutz, Vice President of Servant Resources

debgutz@hotmail.com

## Sins and Forgiveness

Our theme of Psalm 130:3-4 says *If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.*

At first glance you, might be afraid that the Lord was keeping a record of our sins, we would not be worthy of saving, but we know that His forgiveness is the part we need to focus on. Otherwise, how would we be able to serve our Lord, knowing that none of us are good enough. Because of His forgiveness, we can show what the Lord has done for us to others. In the past couple of years, it has been hard for everyone to get out to serve others. We all fall short on what is expected of us, but instead of sitting back doing nothing, we need to focus on getting out and serve others in any, and all ways possible. There are so many ways that can be done: visit the sick and homebound, send cards of Thinking of You, Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Thank You and cards giving encouragement. You can bring food, help do work for those who cannot, and always say prayers for any and every person who may need it. October is Pastor Appreciation Month, but we can thank our pastors and church workers every day!

Every day, we are forgiven. We also need to forgive others it the same way!

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! I am especially thankful for all the people I have met through the LWML and my church family. God's Blessings to you all.

## LWML Mission Statement

**As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.**



# Mission Grants and Scholarships

- 2020 Scholarships - \$15,000 (Paid)
- Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool - \$3,730 (Paid)
- Mission Central - \$10,000 (Paid)
- Fort Wayne Seminary Food Bank - \$5,000 (Paid)
- Peace Lutheran Comfort Dog Ministry - \$5,000 (Paid)
- Siouxland Hispanic Ministry - \$12,000
- Lutheran Braille Workers - Bring Christs Light to Those Living in Darkness - \$10,000
- Gospel Outreach to International Students - Lutheran Chapel - Univ. Nebraska Lincoln - \$1,270
- 2021 Scholarships - \$15,000 (Paid)
- Soldiers of the Cross - Young Women Representatives - \$2,020 (Paid)



Pictured above is Eden - Comfort Dog at Peace Lutheran - Columbus along with her handlers - this is the most recent mission grant paid.

In order to fulfill our commitments for this biennium, the Nebraska North District is short ~\$24,000. In order to fulfill this commitment, we will need collect ~\$30,000 in Mite offerings prior to March 31, 2022, as 25% of our Mites go to National to fund the National LWML Mite goal. Please pray about your offerings and give as you are able, so the ministries can fulfill the mission God has given them.



*Nebraska North District Convention  
July 21-23, 2022  
Ramada Inn, Columbus, NE*

## 2022 District Convention Hotel Information

Ramada Inn – Columbus Nebraska. Phone: 402-564-1492

Cost: \$104.95 / room for 2 occupants

\$10/night for each additional occupant

Breakfast Buffet included

Rooms reserved at this rate- July 21-23, 2022. Make your reservations now!

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