



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LEAGUER

Website: lwmlnebraskanorth.org
Facebook: Nebraska North District LWML

Fall 2023, Volume 17, Issue 4

Together in Him - LaDonna Stanosheck lmstano@gmail.com
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The King is Coming!!



And we must be prepared! In worship this week, I thought on these words and wondered how I prepare myself. Daily devotions, and being in the Word are so helpful, but as I prepared to take the Lord's Supper, I needed to prepare my soul during the confession and absolution. I prepared my heart in the beautiful hymns of praise and adoration we sang. And with head and heart and soul, I thanked my God that He is coming. Coming to take us all home to him. And as a dear friend, Gary, always says...because of your help in the mission field, there will be more people in heaven that have received the good news of Jesus' salvation. As we give our mites and our time, we are helping prepare this world for the King to come. We continue to "serve with gladness" because we know He is coming and we want all people to be prepared!

I was so pleased to see and meet so many people at our biennial all district retreat in Ashland. What wonderful Bible study and uplifting speakers we had. I thank all who attended and especially all those who had a part in making it a wonderful retreat!



DISTRICT RETREAT

Bible Study, LWML Information and Hevenly Hens



2025 CONVENTION

Information



2024 DISTRICT CONVENTION

June 28-29, 2024

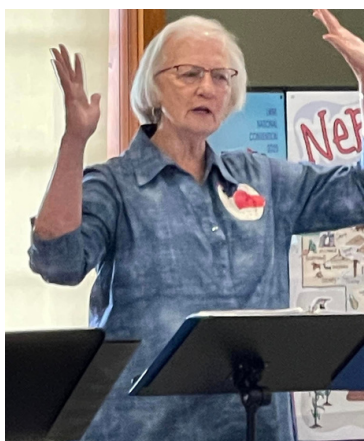
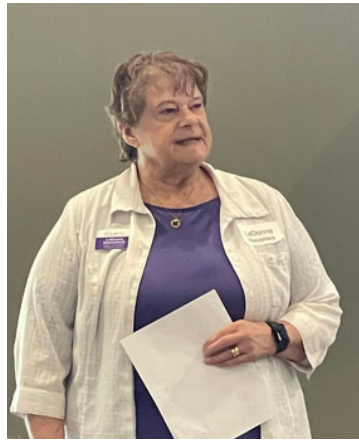


SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER

Woman of God

District Retreat - 2023

Our District Retreat was held on Saturday, August 26 at Carol Joy Holling Camp with 65 women registered. Hostesses were Omaha Zone presidents, Tanya Waite and Joyce Buethe, and Pastor Cory Burma did an opening devotion. We collected \$800 that day for mites through the "September to Remember" drive, with many women sharing treasured memories of the women in whose name they donated. Pastor Mork led us in a morning and an afternoon Bible study. The guest speaker was Faith Doerr, and there were reports from our National Convention YWRs, Kenzie Pasold and Mallory Calvert. Hannah Engelman reported on being the new Heart to Heart, Sisters of All Nations coordinator. Crystal Miller gave an update on 2025 Convention plans, and a report from participants of the Assembly of Leaders was shared from Tanya Waite ("Know Your Story"), Jeanette Buehne ("Treasure Hunt" [on the LWML.org website]), and Lynette Koehler ("Me, a Leader?"). The day's ingathering was for the camp as well as for Lutheran Family Services, and there was entertainment by the Heavenly Hens singing group--it was a truly wonderful day.



2022-2024 Biennium - Mission Goal

\$80,000



- Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool - \$6,000
- Running the Race with Mission Central - \$6,000
- Siouxland Hispanic Ministry - \$7,500
- The Fatherhood Initiative Project, Lutheran Family Services - \$7,500
- Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Food and Clothing Bank - \$3,000
- Logos Bible Software, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis - \$4,500
- Daughters of the Savior - \$5,000
- Chancel furnishings for the University Lutheran Chapel/UNL - \$7,500
- Bringing Spanish Braille Bibles to Central and South America, partially funded - \$3,000
- YWR: Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool - \$2,022
- Academic Year 2022-2023 Church worker Scholarships - \$15,000
- Academic Year 2023 -2024 Church worker Scholarships - \$15,000

Note: Grants in purple indicate that they are PAID

Sara Huwaldt - Vice President of Servant Resources

sara.huwaldt@hotmail.com (C) 402-841-4407



When looking at all the news going about these days, it seems there is more bad news than good. More stories that deal with murder, wars throughout our world, and many other negative conflicts that only show the darkness throughout our world. Even on social media, we are bombarded with stories and videos of the evil in our world. We watch videos of those crazy “Karens” going off on everyone around them simply because they did not get what they wanted. We are bombarded by examples of God’s Ten Commandments constantly being

broken, and that can fill us with despair.

But we must remember throughout the evil and darkness found in our world these days that Our Lord is nearby. As our LWML Sunday theme verse states, Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! (Psalm 24:7-8). We must remember that our Lord is our King and, soon, He is coming to lift us up! In His coming, we will be saved just as we were saved in our baptism!

Jeanette Beune - Financial Secretary

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(402) 529-6495 (H), (402) 380-7813 (C)

Financial report for July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023

Mite Offerings from Societies	\$ 8,562.31
From Donations	\$545.49
From Memorials	\$420.00
Special Offerings	\$976.55
Thrivent Choice	\$0.00
Payments in Kind – to Mites	<u>\$214.78</u>
Total Mites	\$10,719.13

Memorials from July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023

From

Arlington St. Paul Women's League
Bancroft, St. Paul Altar Guild
Bancroft, St. Paul Altar Guild
Battle Creek, St. John WINGS
Bellevue, Pilgrim Women of Pilgrim
Bellevue, Pilgrim Women of Pilgrim
Buckendahl, Suzanne
Columbus, Christ Ladies Aid & LWML
Creighton, Christ Ladies Aid LWML
Fremont, Good Shepherd
Norfolk, Christ, Priscillas
Osmond, Immanuel LWML
Plattsmouth, First Lutheran
Ridder, Becky

For

Lola Scheer
Janice Daberkow
Marion Redding
Ann Koopman
Laura Horne
Lois Allen
Ann Koopman
LaVerna Rickert
Mary Jo Huber
Delores Daehnke
Sandy Cover
Lorena Kumm
Judie Musgjerd
Ann Koopman

Mites

May God continue to bless these mite offerings that fund the projects for the 2022-2024 biennium. Please continue your prayers and support of our District and National Mission Grants

Other Income

Book Store Sales	\$581.08
Donation - Other	\$20.00
Estate Proceeds	\$36,546.70
Interest Income	\$36.54
Memorials not for mites	None
Quarterly Subscription Income	None
Retreat Registration	\$1,364.00
Special Offerings (non-mite)	None
<u>Transfer from LCEF</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
Total Other Income	\$43,548.32

LWML Convention - Milwaukee, WI

What a blessing to attend the conference with my spouse, Boyd, and worship our risen Lord and Savior with the other attendees; nearly 4,000 voices were lifted in song and responsive readings during the opening service and other times. The Lutheran Women in Mission voting body adopted a \$2,350,000 mission goal for the 2023-2025 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 31 mission grants, as women and men respond in prayer and mite offerings during the next two years. This coming biennium has a jump start with the surplus from the previous biennium of \$316,870.00. Praise be to God.

Starting January 2024

Please send mites and correspondence to this new address:

- 1421 Bracht Drive
- West Point, NE 68788

Carol Weber - Vice President of Communication

The King is Coming? YAY!

“Mom, the four of us are coming this Saturday for an entire week!” “Honey, the first snow is coming!” “Easter is coming!” “Summer is coming, with all its beautiful flowers.”

When something is coming, it's often a really good thing, right? For my daughter and son-in-law to come with their two toddlers is a complete joy. It's also a lot of work to ensure I have menus and groceries in place, and it's even more work to make my house baby-proofed. When the first snow comes, I love the quiet whiteness and the promise of the joy of the holidays to come—but it takes a very long time to get all our leaves raked and bagged, making the lawn ready for that snow and not a big gloppy mess. The joy of contemplating our Savior's love and compassion during Lent as we prepare for Easter is always time well spent, but it's easy to get distracted from true focus. And isn't summer grand fun with sunny skies, warm temperatures, and beautiful flowers everywhere? But all that planting and watering, not to mention weeding, takes a lot of time. Bottom line? When something is coming, however good it may be, it means we have more work to do, we have more demands on our time.

So how do you really feel about “Jesus is Coming”? For starters, does it bring you joy? When I was young, I didn't understand the joy my mom would express at the idea of Jesus coming. No, I was young and had a life to live, a husband to find, babies to bear and raise; I wasn't at all impatient to move from this earthly life to my heavenly life. Now? I get it. Don't get me wrong: I love my life, my husband, my family, and even all my commitments...but when I've overextended myself, when days feel overwhelming, when the sin that surrounds us all begins to seem bigger than the Savior who conquered sin, the idea of leaving behind this world doesn't look so bad.

Will it be scary when our King comes? Probably. It will certainly be an occasion of great awe. Do we need to fear? No. Jesus showed His love and compassion for us by giving up the majesty of heaven and coming to earth as a baby in a humble manger. Then He showed His love and compassion for us by going to the cross, suffering the unimaginable pain and agony, and then rising again, conquering death, all so that we can live eternally with Him. So can we feel complete joy to think, “The King is Coming,” whatever our age? Yes. Jesus will, as always, keep His promise to us, and will take us to Him in Heaven, and there will be nothing to fear, nothing to leave us frazzled, and nothing to regret.

In God's perfect time, the King is Coming...and it will only mean joy for us, and not extra work!

Rachel Jensen - Good Shepherd Fremont

Recently I went through an accumulation of Bible Study books we have used at Good Shepherd in Fremont. If anyone is interested, we would appreciate the cost of the postage if mailed, but the books can also simply be picked up at the Good Shepherd church office. Or contact me for other arrangements. -Rachel Jensen rachelfromne@gmail.com

- 5 copies: The God of All Comfort, Lessons of Hope by Donna Pyle Snow
- 5 copies: Sip, Savor and Drink Deeply by Deb Burma
- 9 copies: Bless These Lips, a 40 Days of Spiritual Renewal by Sharla Fritz
- 13 copies with 1 DVD: Divine Design 50 Days of Spiritual Makeover by Sharla Fritz

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and people and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes.

Are you there? Are you one of the people St. John the Divine is speaking of? Are you one coming out of the great tribulation? Because the people the Bible is picturing are saints. So I ask you again, are you a saint?

Maybe you've said to yourself, "I'm no saint." Maybe you've said someone else is really a saint because they have done good deeds for others. Maybe you cheered for a football team from New Orleans of the same name. Perhaps you don't compare yourself to St. Paul for whom many congregations are named. Maybe you grew up in a church tradition where only a few select members of the church were seen to be extraordinary in the witness of their faith, or who were clearly equal to those who suffered a martyr's death like St. Joan of Arc, and you knew that you couldn't ever measure up to that title of Saint.

LAW.

Don't worry. You don't. On your own, you cannot measure up to being a saint. Because the definition of a saint is a Holy One of God.

There is nothing you can do to become a saint. You bring absolutely nothing to the table. And to think that you can be holy on your own is wrong, just as thinking you are not good enough is also wrong. Because the focus of who is holy and who is not takes the focus away from Christ and puts the focus on us. Yet everything you can do to live like one is part of our job description (Eph 2:10). You can live like a saint by leading a Holy Life here on earth, like saints lead in eternity. But, even so, you cannot turn yourself into a saint. No matter how much you try, or how well others think of you, you cannot turn yourself into a saint.

Why? Because you are unable to keep God's law. It is in your nature, the sin nature you were born with. And yet, soon, we will commemorate All Saints' Day. It doesn't make sense. Not at all. Because to the world and to our own minds, nothing Godly will ever make perfect sense. It is impossible to completely rid ourselves of the notion that if we live a "good life" we somehow will achieve the holiness required by God to be judged before the throne of God as righteous.

It can't happen. We cannot achieve holiness. Because it is not an achievement.

GOSPEL.

Sainthood, holiness is a gift. That gift is faith. And in faith, you receive what God has done for you in Christ Jesus. He gathers us here for the sake of the communion of saints. And you are a saint. Because the blood of Jesus, the blood of the Holy Lamb, has washed you in baptism. The Lamb of God was born to die for your forgiveness, to cover unholiness with his holiness. As a result, you now serve him here on earth and there in eternity with the angels standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures.

Until then we wait in the hope of sharing in the unspeakable joy in his heavenly courts where we will hunger no more, thirst no more, away from the burning heat of the sin. Because, whether it is soon or many millennia, The King is Coming!


Amen.

Suzanne Totten - Vice President of Human Care

totten81944@gmail.com

(Editor's note: This was inadvertently omitted from the Summer 2023 Leaguer when the theme was "Celebrate the Lord of YOU.")

Celebrate "me"? Who is "me"?

You are a real firecracker! Did you come into the world with a bang? As a child, these are the comments I heard. And why? Because I have a Fourth of July birthday. I was special. I was unique. I was one of a kind. My little ego was bursting like a  (Roman candle)! And because of my youthful innocence I believed this was most certainly true.

But as I grew a little older reality set in and I learned I wasn't the only one with a July 4th birthday and that all the celebration hoopla was not about me, but about the birth of our nation. And to add to the disappointment, my birthday often got overlooked amongst all the festivities. So much for feeling unique and being one of a kind. I wasn't special at all. At least, that's how the world was defining me.

But this was most certainly not true. I now believe in how God defines me. I may be a lost and condemned creature, but oh how I am loved in such a special way. God tells me in His word that He knew me before I was born, that He knows how many hairs are on my head and that He always has had a very special plan for me. And best of all, when I fail in those plans, He forgives me and sends the Spirit to comfort me.

Who is "me"? Who is each of us? We are God's children—created, redeemed and sanctified by our loving heavenly Father. We are each special. We are each unique and one of a kind. That is a lot to celebrate!

District Convention - 2024

The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases

June 28-29, 2024

Our Savior Lutheran Church, Norfolk

Verse: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. *Lamentations 3:22-23*

Keynote Speaker: Christina Hergenrader

National Representative: Arlene Naasz, Vice President of Organizational Resources

Mission Grant Speakers:

- Pastor Schulz - Mission Central
- Lutheran Family Services - The Fatherhood initiative, Suz Bittner
- North Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch
- Orphan Grain Train
- Daughters of the Savior - Valorie Snow
- Our Place after School Care - Addie Johnson

Church Service with Communion - Saturday morning

Servant Events - Friday afternoon

More information will be coming; plan to register and join us!



Young Women IN MISSION

Were you a Young Woman Representative (YWR) in the past for Nebraska North District or any other District? Were you a YWR at a District Convention or at the National Convention? If so, we are wanting to hear from you!

If you have not been a participant of the YWR program, do you know of someone who has?

If so, please share this information with them!

Future District YWR Events potentially coming your way!

YWRs – Complete the Survey below for more information:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XW88HNM>



A Woman of Great Faith: Frances Revord

Lisa Stirtz



We all have come across people in our life that have a love for the Lord, show their faith, and live out their faith. This is what I encountered in Frances Revord of Omaha, Nebraska. I met Frances on the charter bus when we went to the National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, in 2015. Frances was a woman of strong faith, loved the world, loved her Lord, and loved people. On our bus trip, I remember Frances sharing stories, sharing her smiles and love with everyone, and wanting to be independent and wanting no one to help her...even though she needed a little assistance. She loved the convention, took part in all the activities, and always thanked us for waiting for her to get to the bus. This woman was a mom of 10, grandmother of 20, and great-grandmother to many more, too. Her family would talk about her love for them all, about how she cared for them all, and about her laughter even when you were your angriest.

Frances Revord was an extra-ordinary person, and she was an LWML Purple Peep. Frances went to meet her Lord on Sept. 19, 2023 at the age of 101, and she would have had her 102nd birthday on Sept. 21. I feel very privileged to have known Frances, the hugs I got from her, the smiles I received, and the greeting “How is your day going?” from her. She was a true servant of the Lord, and her faith was so very important to her and she showed it to everyone she knew. I want all of us to have a Frances in our life, someone who shares Jesus like Frances did, someone who loves the world even when things are rough.

Frances Revord was an exceptional woman, and I feel very privileged to have known her. Quoting from her granddaughter: Everyone that crossed her path adored her. This is so very true.

LWML Convention - Omaha - 2025

Host Committee Chair - Crystal Miller

hcc2025@lwml.org
(402) 290-0190

2025 Convention Host Committee News

I'm not sure any one of us recognize all the planning and process that goes into a National Convention. I'm learning a lot for sure. While things are moving forward, we have just gotten to the point where I have received all of the electronic reports from the Milwaukee Committee. Lots to read and digest, but great to have the information. So, as we learn more, we'll have more need for volunteers to begin to participate.

Current Needs

- **Prayers**
 - For the leadership of the committee
 - For willing workers to fill all the positions available on the committee
 - For volunteers to assist in all of the planning work, preparation of the many decorations, favors, and all the other jobs we don't even know needs to happen yet
 - Pray for the Host Committee on November 18th as we have our first official meeting.
- **Appointments**
 - During the months of October and November, we'll be contacting women to take on leadership positions on the committee. I ask you to take the following four steps if you are one of those people:
 - * First – take the time to prayerfully consider this request – this is service to God. He will give you the capacity to do what he asks of you.
 - * Second – Read the job descriptions that we send along with the request
 - * Third – Ask any questions you have. We can connect you with the people who held positions in Milwaukee – so they can give you real knowledge.
 - * Fourth – prayerfully consider the job again.
- **Jean Pockets**
 - One of the favors will utilize blue jean pockets.
 - * We need jeans with back pockets.
 - * You can cut the pockets out and just bring the pocket (we need them to remain a pocket so they will hold things)
 - * Be on the look out for additional information and instructions related to the making of the favors.
- **Seek & Serve - April 6, 2024**
 - We will gather to make some of the favors that are required for convention – so plan to come.

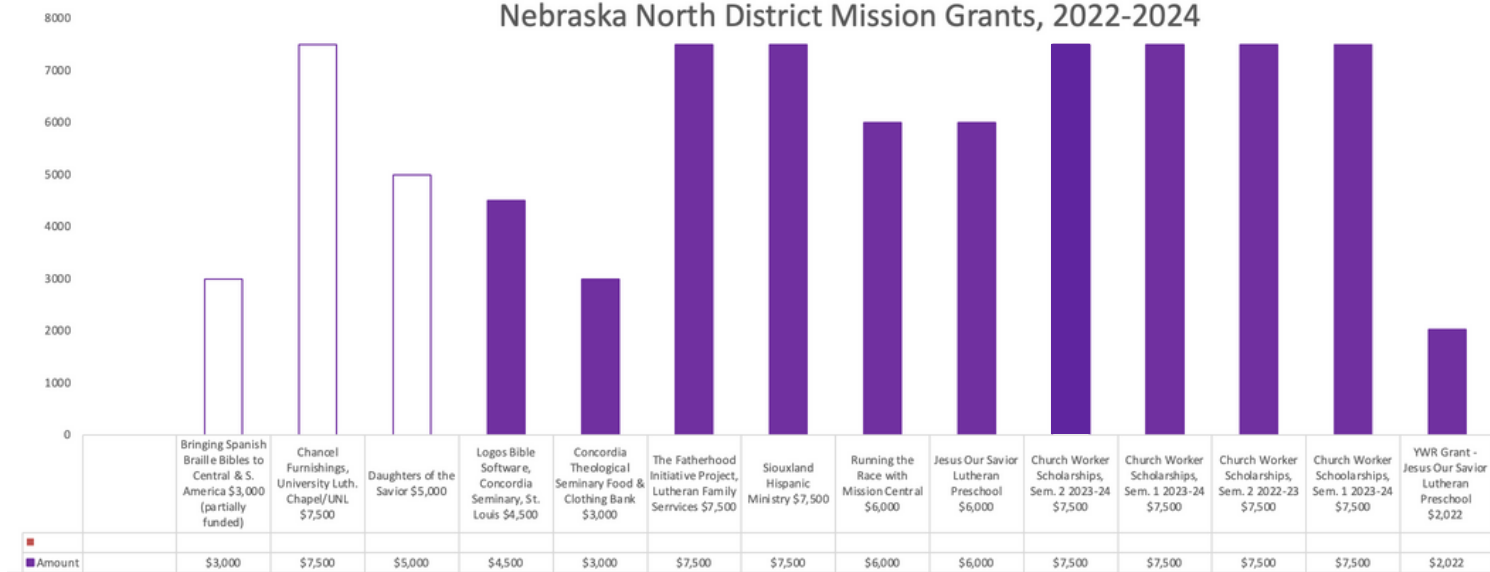
Upcoming Information

- **Theme and Bible Verse**
 - I am told this will come sometime before the end of October.
- **Logo**
 - We will get a logo shortly after the theme and the bible verse. We need to wait for the graphic artists to do their work.
- **Shirts**
 - The key fundraiser for the Host Committee is to sell shirts with the logo
 - * These have typically been a polo shirt, but the committee has asked to have more than one option. We are considering different options at this point. Approval will be required from the Convention Planning Committee. We'll share the different style options and pricing as soon as everything is approved. Be on the look out for options to order online

If you have questions, have information you want to share, want to volunteer, etc. please contact me at hcc2025@lwml.org I welcome your communication at any time.

Mission Grant Chart - 2022-2024

Nebraska North District Mission Grants, 2022-2024



West Point Zone - Fall Gathering

The West Point LWML Fall Rally was held on Monday September 25, 2023 at Zion St. John, Wisner and hosted by Immanuel Beemer. We had 44 in attendance to hear Rev. Mathew Heise speak on the work of the Lutheran Heritage Foundation throughout the world bringing the Bible, Luther's catechism, hymnal and other printed material in their native language.

Our evening ended with a servant event of preparing seven (7) Blessing Breakroom Snack Boxes for the Nursing Homes and Assisted Living facilities in our Zone. Also included were notes of encouragement for the staff, Mustard Seed devotions and other LWML items.



Dates to Remember

April 6, 2024 - Seek & Serve - Peace, Columbus

June 28-29, 2024 - District Convention - Our Savior, Norfolk

June 26-29, 2025- National LWML Convention - CHI - Omaha

Time for Nominations

In June 2024 - we will be electing new district officers, and Carol Taylor and the rest of the nominating committee need your nominations. Nominations are needed for Financial Secretary, VP of Communications, VP of Human Care, VP of Christian Life, Recording Secretary, and Jr. Pastoral Counselor. The nominations for Pastoral Counselor are due October 1st, and the Nominations for all other officers are due December 1st. Please prayerfully consider nominating a willing servant, or nominating yourself. Ask the current officers and they will tell you that their service in LWML has been a blessing!

Pam Williams, Vice President of Gospel Outreach

The King is Coming!

lwmlpam@gmail.com

My husband and I anxiously and excitedly waited for the phone to ring and hear the announcement that our grandson had arrived. I had my mom and sister texting and asking if there was any news yet. "No, but I wish there was!" Waiting with anticipation is exciting but can also cause dread and fear as I imagine all sorts of scenarios going badly.

Finally, my son called and explained there had been some complications with the delivery, but everyone was doing fine. I asked all the usual Grandma questions...time of birth, weight, height, and name. The first three items were answered easily. When it came to name I was informed they hadn't had time for the three of them to be together as a family and needed time to decide which of the two chosen names fit their son. More waiting and wondering. A text from my mom and sister again. "Name?" "No," I replied. Finally, it was revealed that our first grandson was named Carter Allen!

As I heard the theme for LWML Sunday, I was immediately excited! The King is Coming! The Scripture text is Psalm 24:7-10. My thoughts turned to the upcoming Advent season and Christmas. Remembering the miraculous story of the angel Gabriel announcing to Mary that she would be with child; the turmoil Joseph felt; and the long journey to Bethlehem that culminates with the birth of a baby—Christ, our King—made me feel warm and secure.

The King is Coming also reminds me that Christ will come again on a cloud in glory. Judgement of the living and the dead will take place with believers joining Christ in heaven. I have no fear and wait for this day with anticipation. Come, Lord Jesus, quickly, and because You have promised, not one of us will be disappointed. But as Lutheran Women in Mission, we might say, "But don't come too quickly, we still have work to accomplish!" Those mites and offerings we give go toward projects in the U.S. and around the world that share the Gospel of Christ with those who have never heard of Jesus. He lived a sinless life and sacrificed himself on the cross for our sins. But wait—He also rose again on the third day after proclaiming victory over sin and Satan. And we want the whole world to hear about Jesus, our Lord and Savior!

September to Remember

September to Remember 2023 Mites for National LWML from LWML Nebraska North District.

Given in memory, in honor, or admiration of the following:

- Aletha Beck
- Ann Parks
- Bruce Schlote
- Clara Gutz
- Dale Pinnt
- Daniel Mase
- Doris Lucht
- Evelyn Seckel
- Frances Revord
- Gloria Sauck
- Gwen Lindburg
- Hilda Jensen
- Joan Schultze
- June Sporleder
- Kenneth and Phyllis Pollock
- Leola Goit
- Lillie Hoegermeyer
- Margaret Blank
- Pam Spilker
- Pastor Chris Asbury
- Pat Janke
- The Women of Pilgrim (Bellevue)
- Thelma Augustine

\$1,058.48 was collected between August 26 and October 14, 2023.



His Light on our Mission Grant Path

2022 - 2024

Bringing Spanish Braille Bibles
to Central and South America
\$3000

UNL Chapel Furnishings
\$7500

Daughters of the Savior
\$5000

LOGOS Software Concordia Seminary
\$4500 PAID

Concordia Fort Wayne Food Bank
\$3000 PAID

Fatherhood Initiative LFS
\$7500 PAID

Siouxland Hispanic Ministry
\$7500
PAID

Running the Race with
Mission Central
\$6000
PAID

Jesus Our Savior Preschool
\$6000
PAID

Scholarships
\$30,000
PAID

Nebraska North
LWML