

The Clarion

October 2018 Volume XXV Issue 4



President Sheila's Post

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His Holy Name." Psalm 103:1

If you missed the Fall Rally this year, you missed a wonderful time of seeing how God works through His people. Here are a few things I heard:

- ❖ In missions, I need to not only work with but walk with the people I serve.
- ❖ Meaningful conversations, even hour-long ones, can take place between two people who don't speak the same language.
- ❖ We need to support the crafts/arts of those in the countries to which missionaries go.
- ❖ Prisoners are no different than anyone in your church, but most have lost touch with day to day family life. Those in prison ministry become their family.
- ❖ Many people in the countries to which missionaries go are very poor, but very happy...and wanting to share what they have with others.
- ❖ Personal relationships are more important than the service provided by missionaries.
- ❖ In Kenya, you can say, "All the time, God is good," and get the response of "God is good all the time."
- ❖ Some mission teams work with children to reach parents and grandparents.
- ❖ God's hands are always seen in discussions and decisions.
- ❖ Always deal with people where they are and not where you think or would like or hope they are or will be. Do not put your values or expectations on others.
- ❖ Some challenges are not always met with success, but this does not always mean failure. Look at what happened and grow from there.
- ❖ When one deals with those who have no shelter or food, she learns how truly blessed she is.
- ❖ When Satan strikes, it gives Christians an opportunity to show their generosity.
- ❖ The different missionaries I heard went on mission trips:
 - Started by their own church
 - With seminary students
 - Through Lutheran Hour Ministries
 - Via an LWML grant
 - Through Lutheran World or Short-Term Missions
 - Through another agency
 - On their own
 - As part of their called ministry

For those of you who did not get to attend your Zone's rally this year, plan now to attend in 2019. You will not want to miss the experience. For those of you who did go, I hope you did not go home unchanged. I want to take what I heard and learned and put it into my life as a Lutheran Woman in Mission. How blessed we all were to have those who have taken specific mission trips or are in specific ministries continue to share not only with those in the mission field, but by building the women of Central Illinois up to be in mission in the place where God sends us—whether next door, across the U. S., or around the world. May God bless each of you in your next mission journey.

Sheila Lutz

Rock Island Zone Activities



At the 2016 LWML CID Convention's Servant Event in Jacksonville, LWMLers filled 200 care packages for men, women, and children stricken with cancer. These were given to "Phil's Friends", a cancer charity organization which ministers to cancer victims. It is in Roselle, Illinois. Since that convention, Immanuel Lutheran LWML from Rock Island has made annual trips to Phil's Friends with donations of colored pencils, hats, blankets, and other items to support this wonderful mission founded by cancer survivor, Phil Zielke. A care package for someone you know battling cancer can be requested at Philsfriends.org.

Traveling to Roselle this year were Shelley Moeller and Brenda Weisenborn (Immanuel), Sheila Lutz (LWML CID President), and Sandy Young (Rock Island Zone President). In the center of this picture is Kevin Amstrutz, our tour guide for the day.

On a beautiful May afternoon in 2018, St. John, Geneseo LWML hosted an activity for the Rock Island Zone. Rev. Jonathan Clausing, his wife, Anita, and their nine children, home on furlough from Kenya and Tanzania, did a PowerPoint presentation about their work among the people of these Eastern African nations. Pastor Clausing is an LCMS theological educator at St. Peter Theological Seminary in Tanzania and Neema Lutheran College in Mantongo, Kenya. Not only did they share the details of their work, but the entire family also sang together beautifully; one of the songs in Swahili. A dessert bar preceded the presentation as did an opening devotion. LWML Rock Island Zone President, Sandy Young also brought news from the CID.



Next Clarion Deadline is January 25!

First CID Grant Funded



Those pictured are Sheila Lutz, LWML CID President, Pastor Mark Miller, LCMS CID President, and Pat Heinecke, LWML CID Vice President of Gospel Outreach and Mission Grants.

The first 2018-2019 LWML CID Mission Grant has been fully funded to the Student Aid for Church Workers through your mites and donations. Praise the Lord! Those \$30,000 will be used to fund the education of our CID future church workers through the CID Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund assigns over \$123,000 to assist students with their university and seminary tuition. On the average, those expenses are above \$33,000 per year so it is easy to see the great need of our CID students. Last year, the Fund helped 29 students at our Synodical schools. Even though our pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters seem like so little, when we gather them together, great things can be accomplished!

Thanks

Some of the many words of thanks from the recipients of these funds.....

Emmett A. Bartens, Good Shepherd in Newton- First year at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne.....

I wish to say thank you for your generous donations to help fund seminary students education costs. It means so much to my family and me to know there are so many caring and loving people who support God's work. My wife and I are grateful for this opportunity to serve God and others so that I may someday lead one of Gods flocks and care for them. It is a lot of hard work at seminary but some of the stress is removed by your generous gifts and prayers. I thank you all for all that you do, and God bless every one of you.

Claire Busby, Immanuel in Altamont – Sophomore at Concordia University in Nebraska....

Thank you so much for your kind and generous gift towards my seminary education in the field of elementary education. With my large family it has been a struggle to complete my seminary work while keeping my student job and supporting my family. Your loving generosity has made it all possible. You are truly a blessing towards God's church. Thank you.

Scott Brown, Bethel – Morton – Second Year at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis...

My dearest blessings and thanks to you for the amazing and unexpected generosity! The grant that I received is overwhelming and much appreciated. May the Lord bless and keep you!

Praising Purple Sisterhood Retreat



About 50 “purple sisters” attended the LWML Retreat which was held at Camp CILCA on October 12th and 13th. The guest speaker was Rev. Mitchel Schuessler, national LWML Pastoral Counselor, from Troy, Illinois. He led the group in three Bible sessions which explored Psalm 107 with the main concentration on steadfast love. The retreat committee based all the activities on the theme “The Purple Sisterhood”. LWML CID Senior Counselor, Pastor Hahn, led devotions to start the Friday evening. The group enjoyed a delicious catered meal of Mexican food with some yummy tacos. The mixer led by Mary Denham required the group to choose one of six different kinds of candy bars and divide into groups by those choices. She then read a personality profile of each group. Board games and Pictionary were played in the evening. After a good night’s rest, the sisters enjoyed a delicious breakfast. After the morning devotion and Bible study, Shelley Moeller explained a prayer journal that she distributed to each guest. After dividing into prayer pairs, the duals talked in the retreat building or as they walked in the damp wooded area. Annie Guerrettaz and her skit crew performed some appropriate skits about our LWML mission in between the other activities. The purple sisterhood enjoyed a weekend of singing, praying, and studying God’s Word. And they made a few new purple friends!

Giving Tuesday – November 27

What is Giving Tuesday?

Giving Tuesday, observed on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, takes the focus off the commercialism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday and instead celebrates giving back. Our goal is to use Giving Tuesday to spread the Gospel message by collecting money and raising awareness for LWML Mission Grants, which share the love of Jesus throughout all nations. Thanks to two generous donors, this year all Giving Tuesday donations will be matched, up to \$20,000 in matching funds!

Altamont Zone Rally



Top Left: Speakers at the Altamont Zone Fall Rally on September 25 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Shobonier were David and Sharon Reed. Both were baptized, confirmed and married at Immanuel. They now reside near Indianapolis, Indiana, and do numerous mission projects in their church, community, and different countries. They presented a very inspiring message of how little things can make such a difference.

Top Right: Zone Vice President- Mary Zumwalt, Daphne Flood, and Mary Aukamp presented a skit.

They came by bus loads to the rally! This group of ladies rode the church bus to the rally from their congregation in Vandalia. A bus full of ladies from Altamont also attended the rally. Elaine Stuckemeyer was elected as the new president of the LWML CID Altamont Zone. She was installed by the LWML CID Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Michael Mohr.

Recycling is Back!!!

At the Springfield rally, Jan Morgan volunteered to chair our recycling for mites. Rebecca Senkus volunteered to help. If you have not been saving your ink cartridges and cell phones for the last 6 months, please start again. These items can be sent to any district board meeting with your Zone President or any district officer or brought to the district convention in April. Many thanks Jan and Rebecca for *Serving the Lord with Gladness!*

Many thanks to Nancy Stremming who engineered the recycling for mite projects for the past 10 years!

2018 - 2019 National Banner Schedule

Each zone gets the banner for roughly two months. There should be a brief statement about the banner (who made it, what it was used for, the symbolism of the banner, etc.) in the cannister with the banner. Please use this in your church bulletin so your congregation understands the significance of the banner. If you have any other questions, please contact Mary Denham, LWML CID Public Relations Chairman at 217-620-0042 (cell) or marydenham@ymail.com.

October – December Lincoln (12)

January – February 2019 Decatur (4)

March – April 2019 Danville (10)

Counselor's Corner

Greetings!

As of this writing, I have begun a journey to the Holy Land. I am still struggling with the time change, but other than that, the trip has gotten off to a good start! Our group of 28 people left Chicago on Tuesday, October 23rd, had a layover in Frankfurt, Germany, and arrived in Tel Aviv at 3:30 PM local time—7:30 AM Central Time. After going through customs, we drove to our hotel, ate a wonderful dinner, and relaxed the rest of the evening.

I am at the point where I am highly anticipating touring Biblical places. What I am anticipating the most is walking the Via Dolorosa (Latin for “The Way of the Cross”). This is the route that Jesus made as he was sentenced to death, carried the cross, and eventually crucified, died, and was buried. In thinking about this portion of the tour, I will get just a glimpse, albeit a very powerful one, of what Jesus went through to give salvation to you and to me. I anticipate that this will be much more moving than any Good Friday service that I have ever led.

What Jesus went through on the Via Dolorosa is the reason the Church exists—we receive the forgiveness of sins through Christ's death and resurrection. And really, what Jesus went through is why the LWML exists—to support the work of spreading that Gospel message to a world that really needs that powerful message. As I attended the LWML Rallies, I continue to be amazed by the local, national, and international work that people are doing. The Holy Spirit is so active in their lives and in your lives by giving you the hearts to support them.

I look forward to continuing this journey through the Holy Land. You can look at my Facebook page for updates or I would be happy to talk to your societies about my trip. In the meantime, God continue to bless all of you!

Shalom,
Pastor Tim Hahn, LWML CID Senior Counselor

Champaign Zone Rally

The LWML Champaign Zone Rally was held September 19th at Grace Lutheran Church in Paris, Illinois. After a cordial welcome by Allison Arends, Champaign Zone President, the group was privileged to hear from Amy Smith-Grace from the Lutheran Early Response Team (L. E. R. T.) **The mission of the Lutheran Early Response Team is to provide teams of trained volunteers to respond to disasters in our communities within 72 hours or less.** Rev. Michael Mohr, junior CID counselor, led the Bible Study. The officers that were elected were Allison Arends and Linda Thiele as co-presidents, Jo Crackel as treasurer, and Jan Bundy as secretary.

Healthy Habits

I saw in the news recently that, after 55 years, Weight Watchers has re-branded itself! Their new name is “WW International” and their tagline is “Wellness that Works”. So, does this mean “WW” stands for “Wellness Works?” So many businesses are re-branding by using just initials; said initials may or may not mean anything. Their “WW International” color is...wait for it...PURPLE! Since no one is dieting anymore, “WW” now wants to “inspire healthy habits for real life. For people, families, communities, the world—for everyone.”

Seems there is another organization that has “W” in it, and its colors are PURPLE and GOLD! And yes, the LWML added a tagline of “Lutheran Women in Mission” to better explain who we are. LWML re-branded itself in the past 24 months with a new logo. But, in LWML’s 76-year existence, LWML has not changed its name or its mission, and we know what LWML stands for!

And while the “WW” wants to inspire healthy habits for real life, are we as LWML members inspired to make healthy spiritual habits for real life? Nobody said creating a healthy lifestyle is easy! And nobody said that creating a healthy spiritual lifestyle is easy. Per the LWML mission statement, each of us can “affirm our relationship with God.” Then, as “THE PRAISING PURPLE SISTERHOOD,” we can come together at conventions, rallies, and retreats “to use our gifts in ministry to the people of the world.” Now that’s a healthy spiritual habit to develop!!

Mary Denham
Public Relations Chairman

Graceful Women



Here we are again, knee deep into the fall season with Thanksgiving fast approaching and Christmas just around the corner! Hopefully, I didn’t scare you with that!

In fact, I pray that you are all excited about the coming festivities, being able to spend extra time with family, especially the females in your life. With many of us being the older, mature women that we are (wink, wink), this is the perfect time for us to reflect on **Titus 2: 3 – 5**,...*Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine.*

They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

During this festive season, let us strive to be the graceful woman of Titus 2 with setting an example by our actions to our daughters, granddaughters, daughters-in-law, sisters, nieces, etc. Let us show them kindness in our serving them. Let us share our lives with them so they know that we, also, have struggled with the same issues in life they do. Let us provide them with a listening ear and encourage them, but most importantly, let us pray for them that they, too, would grow under God’s grace and care!

After the holiday season is behind us, though, let us carry the graceful woman of Titus 2 in to our congregations and form relationships with other women who are looking and watching...maybe waiting and wanting to grow in God’s grace, but need a helping hand. It can all start with a cup of coffee!

God’s blessings to all of you!

Michele Clevenger
Leader Development Chairman

143rd Anniversary for Lincoln Ladies Aid



Left to right: first row: Betty Schmidt; Shirley Dittus; Carol Schwantz; Shirley Aukamp; JoAnne Marlin. Second row: Wilma Stocker; Kathy Roos; Dora Thompson; Lois Battin; Donna Hellman; Marge Ott; Nancy Lahr. Third row: Linda Hashman; Wilma Miller and Linda McCuan.

Zion Lutheran in Lincoln had a celebration of history! Their Lutheran Ladies Aid Society celebrated their 143rd anniversary. A few years ago, we had two organizations, LWML and Ladies Aid...so with few members in each one, it was decided to join the two groups of ladies together. We are now Zion Lutheran Ladies Aid Society which includes the LWML ladies. Memories filled the celebration from when we canned fruits and vegetables for the seminary students in Springfield to annual soup suppers to ribeye steak and pork chop sales at the local grocery store parking lot. Now we use our talents to make quilts and work on other projects. We made 84 quilts this year for Lutheran World Relief. We, of course, support the mite projects and we help support families that send their children to Camp CILCA. We have been blessed with many hard-working women with many kinds of talents!

Danville Zone Rally



The Danville Zone LWML Fall Rally was held on September 18th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School of Woodworth in rural Milford, IL. The day was based on Ephesians 2:10, *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* We were blessed to have Carmen Gronewold, a native of Buckley, speak on her work with the Peace Rehabilitation Center. PRC is an organization that helps rescue female Nepalese girls from human trafficking and provides educational skills to help them start a new life. The program for the day was held in the sanctuary and concluded in the school's gym with a delicious lunch. For the ingathering 98 Bibles were collected along with 11 boxes of Christian materials, 11 bags of groceries, \$150 for the local food pantry, and \$470.10 in offerings.

On the right - Carmen Gronewold spoke on human trafficking and her mission within the Peace Rehabilitation Center in Nepal.
On the left - Marlene Schultz, Danville Zone President, welcomed everyone to the rally at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Woodworth.

Kick Off 2018-2019 with Trivia and Exercise!

To kick off our 2018-2019 year at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Rock Island, the women of the LWML have held two LWML events that we would like to share with everyone. Back by popular demand, as part of our Vacation Bible School/Education Sunday, President Christine Marilyn Boudro and her handsome husband, Jim, presented a trivia game for children and adults. Based off of a YouTube game called "Um, Actually...", adults and children answered questions regarding Bible trivia, knowledge regarding the Small Catechism, and LWML information. Our prizes this year were gift bags made by our Vice-president Helen Vogel. The gift bags included chocolates, LWML pencils, and decorated LWML mite boxes.

The women of the LWML based at Cristo Rey and Immanuel Lutheran Church teamed up this year to participate together in the 2018 Pregnancy Resource Center Walk4Life in Moline, Illinois. The Pregnancy Resource Center is a Christian based group providing ultrasounds, education classes, and options besides abortion for women and men. Seven LWML women and several congregation members participated along with the LWML mascot, Buddy (the dog). Together with many other people, thousands of dollars were raised to help support the Pregnancy Resource Center.

Projects by Zion Lutheran at Taylor Ridge

Photo 1 – Fleece Blanket Caring and Sharing Project. The ladies made 19 blankets for the local Kidney Dialysis Center and the Cancer Treatment Center. They spent approximately 10 hours (2 hours per week) on this project. Pictured Left to Right are Sue Parchert, Marlene Bayer, Ruth Ann Rennison, Mary Ann Neece, Carol Parchert, Mary Lou Parchert & Carolyn Foss. Absent from photo are Cheryl Mueller and Marilyn Parchert.

Photo 2 – Dresses for Africa Project. Carolyn Foss(L) made 15 dresses for the Orphan Grain Train Little Dresses for Africa project. Dresses were made from pillow cases and fabrics. Mary Lou Parchert (R) helped with embroidery work. Each dress took about 2 hours to cut, sew and trim.

Photo 3 – Lutheran World Relief Quilting Project This is an ongoing project of Dorcas Society member Nancy Eddy. To date, Nancy has created 20 quilts from donated fabric. Pictured left to right are Marilyn Parchert, Nancy Eddy and Mary Lou Parchert. Additional assisting volunteers are Linda Peterson, Carolyn Foss, Cheryl Mueller, Pat Carlson, Doris Goode, Fran Krahl, Joan Mueller and Lucinda Parchert.



Upcoming Events

LWML CID EC and Board Meeting – February 25 – 26, 2019, at Camp CILCA

LWML CID Convention – April 26 – 27, 2019, in Danville

LWML National Convention – June 20 – 23, 2019, in Mobile, Alabama

Lending hands

With

Much

Love



At The



Servant Event on

March 29-30, 2019!

This event will be held at Camp CILCA and Love Packages Ministry in Butler, IL. Love Packages is a ministry aimed at putting Bibles and Christian literature into the hands of the people around the world. More information can be found about Love Packages at www.lovepackages.org.

Schedule:

Friday, March 29 – 6 p.m. – Arrive at Camp CILCA for supper then enjoy an evening of Bible study by Deaconess Dorothy Krans, fellowship and fun

Saturday, March 30 - 7:00 a.m. – Enjoy breakfast, make your sack lunch and then travel to Butler (about an hour drive)

Saturday, March 30 – 9:00 a.m. – Arrive at Butler and help to sort and package materials until approximately 3:00 p.m.

Cost:

Friday evening and Saturday = \$35.00

Saturday only = \$10.00

Donations:

Materials such as Bibles (new or used), tracts, religious books, magazines, daily devotionals, CD's or DVD's. For a full list, please see the website.

Or a monetary donation to help defray shipping expenses made payable to "Love Packages"

This Servant Event is limited to the first 25 people, so get your reservation in early!



Name _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail _____

Society & Church _____

T-shirt size: _____

Payment Amount _____

Please send registration form and payment (made payable to "LWML CID") by **December 1, 2018** to: Pat Heinecke 2676 N 2400th Avenue Golden, IL 62339