

The Mission Voice

LWML Louisiana-Mississippi District



Summer 2021 issue:

District YWR

Last Call

LWML Convention Resources

Mission Grants Update



My coworker shared with me that her refrigerator is covered with 10 "Save the Date" announcements of upcoming weddings. (Funny how it seems all of a sudden, my coworkers are the age of my now adult children!) Are you noticing an uptick in social gatherings as well? I have already purchased a 2022 calendar to keep track of family and church events to include the LCMS Southern District Convention in March and the LCMS Youth Gathering in July. April looks to be one of the busiest months so far. Palm Sunday is on the 10th. Easter Sunday celebrating Christ's Resurrection is the 17th, and the 22nd through the 24th is our LWML LA-MS District Convention! Save these Convention dates and start inviting your LWML sisters to do the same. If you attended the Virtual Spring Retreat this year you will recall Michelle and her mom, Ida Mall, giving us a sneak peek of our meeting location near Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church. The Convention will be held at the Lod Cook Hotel and Conference Center on the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. The facilities are sure to provide ample space for Bible study and fellowship time, elections, breakout sessions, meetings, meals and... what better place to wear your favorite LWML purple and gold.

Peace & Joy-
Deedee Koyne
Meeting Manager

It Is Not Too Late to Be a “Not Normal” Missionary

At the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, Mites in Action Speaker Gary Theis from Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa, gave a powerful message about the impact a 2019-2021 LWML Mission Grant of \$100,000.00 to support missionaries has made. Gary began by saying, “I have had the privilege and honor to speak in a different church every Sunday. There are a lot of people that are normal. Normal people are very, very common. Normal people say, ‘Gee, I wish the congregation supports some of those missionaries.’” Gary went on to say, “I have failed miserably and feel badly, especially here at this convention, because over half the people at this convention that I talked to said when I asked them — Are you one of the missionaries here?... ‘OH NO!’”

Gary continued speaking, “Every one of you stand up and raise your right hand. By the power vested in me by God the Father, I swear you in as missionaries for the entire rest of your life until you take your last breath. And if anyone asks you if you are a real missionary, the answer is?... ‘yes’ (we all replied).” Gary sadly said, “That is the weakest, yes. If someone asks you if you are a real missionary, the answer is?... ‘YES’!!!” Gary then pronounced us missionaries in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, Amen.



Gary referred to a Bible passage, *When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who will speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you* (Matthew 10:19-20).

LWML Convention Keynote Speaker LWML Past President Linda Reiser eloquently said that Jesus’ calling is a mountaintop experience, but we are called in our terrestrial lives. Our service and our missionary work happen in the valley. The Holy Spirit goes with us as Jesus calls us. President Linda asked us, “Who in your valley or plain is God calling you to share Jesus with?” President Linda concluded her message by inviting us to sing *LSB Hymn 414* verse 5,



*Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.*

My experience of being with nearly 3000 LWMLers and our Lord within our midst at the 2021 LWML Convention was a mountaintop experience! In Matthew 28:16-20, Jesus’ eleven disciples met Him at the mountain where he commissioned them to go and make disciples of all nations, and that He would be with them always, to the end of the age. I encourage you to give your Mite Box offerings mightily to continue to support mission work here in our LWML LA-MS District and abroad such as Mission Central, but to also with the abundance of the Holy Spirit; stand up, raise your right hand, and boldly be a Lutheran Woman in Mission wherever our Lord commissions and sends you until you receive your heavenly prized crown while “Running the Race...Looking to Jesus.”



Enjoy God’s peace and grace upon you,
Michelle Zollinger
LWML Louisiana-Mississippi District President

LA-MS District Young Women Representative



Hello, my name is Amy Trosclair. I was proud to serve as the Young Women Representative for the LA-MS District to the LWML Biennial Convention in Lexington, KY.

I had only attended a handful of local LWML meetings before the convention, so I had a small idea of what LWML is all about, but what an amazing eye opener seeing what this organization does both locally and throughout the world. Seeing this organization not just survive, but thrive in these trying times, is astounding.

As a YWR, it was nice to be acknowledged not as a “You are the future of the LWML, just wait until you are older to help,” but we were told “You are here now and your input now is wanted to help us to continue reaching all lives with the good news of Jesus Christ. Come, have a seat at the table.”

I look forward to working with my local LWML sisters as we continue “Running the Race... Looking to Jesus.”

Amy Trosclair
LA-MS District YWR

2021 LA-MS District Spring Retreat

District Spring Retreat Zoom recorded link is located on the LA-MS District Website. Go to <https://www.lwml-lams.org/upcoming-events-1> to view the recorded 2021 district virtual spring retreat.



“As a Lutheran Woman in Mission, I will share the joy and wonder of what is done through the LWML by the grace of God — the resources created, the missions supported, and the ministries provided.”

LAST CALL!!

August 31st is fast approaching! That is the deadline for submitting mission grant proposals. If you or your society have been thinking about sending in a proposal, please do it now! There are two required forms and lots of simple instructions which are available on our website. You could also send me a request for the information, and I will email it right to you. If you have questions, please send me a text or email, and I will be happy to help you. Please remember that your proposed project should be mission-minded, be current, and be ready to implement.

What happens to the proposals? When the Mission Grant Committee receives a proposal, it is carefully read and reviewed. Often questions or suggestions are sent to the submitter.

During the fall board meetings, all proposals will be presented and discussed. A slate of mission grant proposals is prepared for the District Convention, and a presentation is given to the convention body and delegates. Our delegates vote, and we have new Mission Grants to fulfill!

Sue McAdams
V.P. of Gospel Outreach
14237 Addington Ave
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
smcadams@tlcbr.org
225-954-9386 (texts, not voicemail)



Faith Building Help for Groups

Faith Building Help for Groups is the planner for 2021–2023. This planning resource includes over 50 new devotions, songs, Bible studies, and sketches to encourage your faith. One of the greatest joys as Lutheran Women in Mission is to run the race of faith proclaiming the glory of the Triune God and tell the truth that salvation is found only in Him. The purpose of the *Faith Building Help for Groups* manual is to help you do this with joy! Every Bible study, devotion, sketch, and song contained in this manual has been LCMS doctrinally reviewed so you can use them with confidence knowing that they truthfully proclaim God's Word. The materials in this manual have been designed to help you reach the "woman in the pew" so that she can grow spiritually, joyfully join her LWML sisters in Christ, and spread the Word in service to Him.



Materials can be downloaded from the LWML Website - <https://www.lwml.org>.

LA-MS District Website Scavenger Hunt



Do you need an activity for your next LWML society meeting? Well, how about a scavenger hunt of the LWML LA-MS District website. Your members can complete the search individually or in pairs. You are timed or untimed. Copy the questions below and let the fun begin. Modify the suggested rules as needed.

Using a web browser on the phone, each team will access the LA-MS District website - <https://www.lwml-lams.org>. Complete the questions listed below. The team to find all the items first wins.

Find these items:

1. What is the date and location of the 2022 LWML LA-MS District Convention?
2. Who is the President of the LA-MS Northern Zone?
3. What is Sue McAdams' email address?
4. What are the LWML LA-MS District Grants that are fully funded and paid?
5. List 2 of the *Resources* available on the website and tell one thing about each resource.
6. Which LWML LA-MS Mission Voice edition contained the article "Calling All Secretaries"?
7. How does one sign-up for LWML devotions, news, and promotions? (And while you are there on the website, sign up yourself to receive the selected items.)

Enjoy learning about the LWML LA-MS District website! Visit the site often. It is updated frequently with pertinent information.

Leslie Koenck

LWML LA-MS District V.P. of Communication

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."
(Matthew 10:39)

LWML Convention Resources

Going to the 39th Biennial LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky was a blessing for Nick and me. Please let the Convention be a blessing for you by viewing the precious gifts of our livestream. Please share the links with your congregations.

The web links livestream for the Convention:

<https://www.lwml.org/2021-convention>

<https://livestream.com/thelwml>

<https://livestream.com/thelwml/events/9692623/videos/222731651>

Thursday Worship Service

<https://livestream.com/thelwml/events/9692629/videos/222744310>

Livestream - Our Opening Banner Procession on **Friday AM** at 21:55 on the timeline; *Michelle Zollinger, our LWML LA-MS District President and Amy Trosclair, our YWR from Lamb of God Church* in Slidell, La. walked with our LA-MS District flag.

Deaconess Heidi Goehmann our Bible study leader first half at 53:33 - 1:19:00 Running on Solid Ground.

Jan Struck as Gertrude and Abby Goehring as Marcie at 1:49:50 - 1:57:00 / 3:20:00 -3:20:32

<https://livestream.com/thelwml/events/9692632/videos/222755186>

Keynote speaker and 15th President of the LWML, Linda Reiser on **Friday PM** at 38:20 - 1:02

Jan Struck as Gertrude and Abby Goehring as Marcie at 1:14:35 - 1:21:41

<https://livestream.com/thelwml/events/9692633/videos/222774384>

Our Processional on **Saturday AM** we honor special guests, our LWML past Presidents leading them will be the LWML banner and Mission Flags from 82 Countries which the Gospel has been preached.

Deaconess Heidi Goehmann our Bible study conclusion 53:44 - 1:32:30

Jan Struck as Gertrude and Abby Goehring as Marcie at 1:32:55 - 1:39:25

<https://livestream.com/thelwml/events/9692639/videos/222781531>

Saturday PM

Jan Struck as Gertrude and Abby Goehring as Marcie at 1:09:52 - 1:16

Blessings,

Kathy Capace

LWML LA-MS Southern Zone President

“Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying”

This is one of my favorite hymns. I didn't realize there were two versions, basically the same but with some different verses. The one I listed as the title of this article is #826. The second one is #827 entitled “Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling.” I'm going to talk about #826, but you might want to look up #827 and compare. Verses 2-4 of #827 make it clear that the time to respond is NOW.

That hymn has always spoken to all people with all maturities of faith, from children to adults. What I love about the hymn is that it does away with excuses for not answering the call of Jesus.

V1- Hark the voice of Jesus crying, “Who will go and work today?” Fields are white and harvests waiting – Who will bear the sheaves away?” Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward He offers thee. Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?

V2- If you cannot speak like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all. If you cannot rouse the wicked, with the judgment's dread alarms, You can lead the little children to the Savior's waiting arms.

V3- If you cannot be a watchman, Standing high on Zion's walls, Pointing out the path to heaven, Offering life and peace to all. With your prayers and with your bounties You can do what God commands; You can be like faithful Aaron, Holding up the prophet's hands.

V4- Let none hear you idly saying, “There is nothing I can do.” While the multitudes are dying And the Master calls for you. Take the task He gives you gladly, Let His work your pleasure be; Answer quickly when He calleth, “Here am I, send me, send me!”

Jesus asks this of each of us individually, but since I've been involved with the LWML I realize how it speaks to us as an organization. There is no job too small to respond to Jesus' call for workers. And we have seen through COVID there is nothing that can limit or prevent our answer to His call ---the churches temporarily close their doors ---we attend services through Zoom services or go to group meetings spaced out. We can't visit hospitals or nursing homes, but we can call and visit on the phone, and send cards and letters. We cannot help at Soup Kitchens but we can provide the meals. We can show our gratitude to Police, firemen, Emergency Response and hospital employees by sending baked goods and a note of thanks for taking great risks to serve the people around us and letting them know we are praying for them. Individually, we can't give great sums of money to the many, many needy organizations ---but who would have thought that little Mite Boxes could fund huge efforts around the world?

THIS is Christian Life---this is you and me!

With you in His service, Love, Bonnie



GOOD NEWS FROM AROUND THE SOUTHERN ZONE:

CHAPEL OF THE CROSS, BATON ROUGE

We collect food for the LSU food pantry. This past Sunday, we enjoyed a seafood meal with the theme from Mark 6:42, *And they all ate and were satisfied.*

We are preparing for the 2022 LA-MS District Convention in Baton Rouge at the Lod Cook Conference Center and Hotel on April 22nd – 24th.

HOLY TRINITY, COVINGTON

Our group of ladies still meet every month and are waiting for our Southern Zone Delegate Rhonda Jackson's report on the LWML National Convention. I heard she enjoyed it. We are looking forward to attending the LA-MS District Convention and hope more members can attend. Because of all the rain, we missed out on our spring meeting in Fairview State Park. We have two new members who attend the church in Folsom. We did meet there a few times but are back at Holy Trinity. Carolyn Huerstel has new twin grandbabies who were showered with new items at one of our meetings.

Hazel Gaudet

LAMB OF GOD, SLIDELL

Hello, my name is Amy Trosclair. I was proud to serve as the Young Women Representative for the LA-MS District to the LWML Biennial Convention in Lexington, KY.

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Amy Trosclair

REDEEMER LUTHERAN, MANDEVILLE

The members of Redeemer Lutheran in Mandeville had a card shower and reception for Dorothy Copeland, the president of our LWML society who recently resigned and moved to Alabama to be closer to her family. Her faithful service will be missed. Catechism prayer books were presented to Redeemer's four confirmands at a reception in their honor. In addition to our regular 5th Sunday food collection for the Samaritan Center Food Bank in Mandeville, a special June food drive was held. Hundreds of pounds of food and hygiene products were collected along with cash donations. A fall food drive is planned.

Rebecca Gernon

ST. JAMES, GONZALES

We have regular services now, and our members are coming back slowly. We are staying prayerful, and sending messages to our members of caring thoughts, prayers, and that their presence is missed.

Gilda Domingue

ST. PAUL, HAMMOND

Welcome to Lexington for the 2021 National LWML Convention! As President Debbie Larson reminded us, we will celebrate the miracles of faith, hope and love together, always “Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus!”

Two of the convention highlights for my husband and me, were participating in the hands-on Servant Connections. We were able to work on a team to prepare Braille books for LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS. 50 copies of 2 books, Lift Me Up, Lord and God’s Promises to Me were completed. We also observed the assembly of nutrient-rich meals to help alleviate malnutrition in children. 30,000 meals for packaged through this LOVE THE HUNGRY project.

We were also thankful to go on 2 of the Kentucky tours arranged through the convention committee. Prior to the convention, we traveled to the CREATION MUSEUM. The amazing exhibits travel through Biblical history, beginning with the Creation and continuing through present times. Each exhibit is the result of countless hours of planning, research, design and construction. A comparison and contrast of beliefs between naturalistic and Biblical are also present.

Following the convention, we traveled a short distance from Lexington to the ARK ENCOUNTER, in Willamstown, KY. Just seeing the actual life-size structure was breath-taking, almost beyond imagination. Attempts were made to explain how the Ark was built and how so many animals were cared for on this incredible journey. Three decks were filled with stunning visuals to explain the activities on the Ark and the way Noah and his family lived there. God’s presence and care of Noah and his family during this time in history is a true witness of His omnipotence and love for His people.

From these tour opportunities to the Opening Worship and Communion Service to the Closing Sending Service, we were fed and nourished with Word of God, truly a mountain-top experience that we were blessed to share.

Jim and Gail Gerike

TRINITY, BATON ROUGE

Trinity, 15160 S. Harrell's Ferry Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70816 will have a Mini Retreat on Saturday, September 11th from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. The guest speaker will be Donna Snow. The setting: A lavish feast in the opulent Persian Empire. The event: a beauty contest. The plot: save a nation from annihilation. This write-up is from CPH.

God’s presence surrounds Esther throughout the entirety of her narrative. While God’s name is never stated, you can easily tell how God is working and weaving His plan to fruition through Esther. His presence, even in his seeming absence, is clear.

The same is true for your life: God is always present with you, even when you feel He is absent. Just because God seems hidden does not mean He is absent, but rather, that He is working faithfully behind the scenes. He never abandons His creation, and He works diligently through you to propel His plan forward.

Cost is \$15 per person (breakfast, lunch, snack) / Register in advance / Books available / Door prizes
Lisa Miller

THE VILLAGE, LACOMBE

The LWML from the Village Church Lutheran has been meeting weekly for a Bible Study via Zoom; studying Exodus.

The ladies had a dessert table for the Church's Car Show held in May. They will be providing desserts for sale at the Octoberfest event on October 23.

Currently the ladies are working on two servant events. The first one will be to prepare Cancer Care Packages for those in our congregation and the local community suffering from cancer.

We are in the planning stages of providing care packages for those in need of personal care products. This will be distributed by our Feeding Ministry and Outreach committee at various events.

Carol Mueller

God's Blessings,

Kathy Capace

LWML LA-MS Southern Zone President

985.882.4007 / 504.251.1972

kcapace@gmail.com

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves (Philippians 2:3).

Our Hearts in HIS Hand

The first Sunday in October is traditionally set aside for the observation of LWML Sunday, but it may be celebrated at any time.

“Our Hearts in His Hand” is the theme for LWML Sunday 2021 and is based on Peter’s first letter to persecuted Christians in Asia Minor. In chapter 4:8, Peter tells them, *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly*. The heart of the LWML is its members; our hearts have been made holy by God. We are fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home and abroad. Our hearts for Christ are in His hand of service, wherever and when He has need of us.



2021 LWML Sunday downloadable materials, authored by Dr. Dale A. Meyer, are now available at lwml.org.

MISSION GRANTS UPDATE – AUGUST 2021

Our Next Mission Grant

#6 Drinking Fountains for Trinity Lutheran School in Baton Rouge, LA -- \$5,000

Recent years have brought many challenges and changes to the school. After relocating, the school continues its mission in three modular buildings. Two drinking fountains will provide cold water for the students as they continue to quench their thirst for a Christ-filled education.



LA-MS District Mission Grants Paid ...#1, #2, #3, and #5

At this time, we have presented a total of \$14,500 in mission grants! What an amazing blessing when you consider that we have been dealing with numerous natural disasters and a worldwide pandemic. This summer a check was sent to the Concordia Seminary Food and Clothing Co-op in Fort Wayne. Last June, Kathie Baeuerlin presented a check to Joyce Tucker of the Safe Haven Abuse Shelter in Columbus, MS. In November Pat Brady presented a check to the Desiard Street Shelter in Monroe, LA. In December Elizabeth Smith presented a check to Pastor Peterson of Chapel of the Cross on the LSU Campus in Baton Rouge.

Looking Ahead – Grants #7 thru #8

#7. Steeple Replacement & Repair for Epiphany Lutheran of New Orleans -- \$5,000

Built in 1915, the church has survived both hurricanes Betsy and Katrina. At this time the structural stability of the church building requires the replacement of the steeple. This grant will help in the purchase of materials and labor cost.

#8. Feeding Lunch to Lutheran School Students in Haiti -- \$500

Nourishing these children with a hot lunch enhances their ability to learn. At a cost of 25 cents per meal, the HOPE project provides a powerful witness of Christ's love along with the food that for many is their only meal of the day.

Praying for Recovery – Grant #4

At this time our Mission Grant #4 has been set aside until circumstances allow the Ladies Aid Society of St. Paul's Lutheran to return to "Feeding God's People"

#4. Reaching the Homeless and Low-Income Families with God's Love -- \$ 5,000

District D of New Orleans has many low-income families and homeless people. Our goal is to provide one hot meal per day to the homeless and to assist the low-income families in paying their utility bills. ***Feeding God's People*** is a program of the Ladies Aid Society of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Orleans. Prior to the pandemic, hot meals were prepared and distributed to the community and the homeless using the church's Fellowship Hall. As we emerge from this time of pandemic and are able to once again gather together safely, the Ladies hope to return to this very timely project.



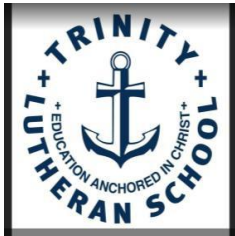
Any Questions? Any fundraising ideas? Please let me know.. you can reach me at smcadams@tlcbr.org.

Sue McAdams, V.P. Gospel Outreach/Mission Grants

Mission Grant #6

Drinking Fountains at Trinity Lutheran School

\$5,000



- Trinity Lutheran School, a ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has been offering an **Education Anchored in Christ** since 1957!

- Formerly First Lutheran, then Baton Rouge Lutheran, the school took a new name when the church and school relocated in 2018. Now the school, church and preschool are all located together amidst the beautiful oak trees in a growing part of Baton Rouge.



- Following the flood of 2016, the school's enrollment declined, but the school persevered and has been flourishing in the new location even through the pandemic.

- The school is now housed in three modular buildings. Two "touchless" water fountains will provide refreshing cold water for the students as they continue to quench their thirst for a Christ-filled education. The fountains will be used according to current CDC recommendations.

