

The Clarion

March 2021 Volume XX9999 Issue 1

President Laura's Post

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?" Romans 8:36

Happy New Year 2021!!!!

Never in my life have I looked so forward to a New Year. That may not be entirely true. When I was a child, I remember figuring out how old I would be in 2000. 36 seemed old at the time. Then, when the millennium came, there were rumors of a great internet crash! It took the focus off how old I would be that year and made me aware of how dependent we were on cyber space. Then, there were the years that I was to be married and when I was expecting my children. What joys would await me in the new year those years!

This past year has been one that I would never have expected in my lifetime. Who would have thought that a pandemic would arise that would keep me at home and make me fear, for the first time, my occupation as a nurse? That it would keep me from attending church, seeing family, and just going where I pleased, when I pleased? That we would have to cancel our convention, rallies and retreat? I have never had anything like this in my life, as I am sure many of you have not either.

As I have stated before, this year has also brought many positive things into my life. An appreciation for quiet time, Bible study, and prayer being number one. A deeper appreciation for "in person" church, with hymns and singing. A thankfulness for health and family is another. I have also found that I want to see people more, take time to visit, not be so busy that there is no time to do so.

I have recently been going through a Bible study by Sharla Fritz entitled "Waiting, A Bible Study in Patience, Hope and Trust". I picked up this book at the convention in Albuquerque and, of course, never found the time to add it to my devotions. This year I did. What a gift this book has been to me. I tend to be a very impatient person in some areas of my life. When I have a project to do, I want it done yesterday. When I am at work and busy, I want to have everything done and go on to the next task. When I go to the Lord in prayer, I want my prayers answered quickly and in a certain way.

Today, I did the Bible study on the woman with the issue of blood. She had tried everything for twelve years to be healed of this disease. She had visited every physician and priest. She had spent much money to be healed, but the problem only became worse. I would imagine she even tried some superstitious remedies. She tried anything that would get her healed and back to her place in society. You see, she could not go to church and was considered "unclean" because of her issue. We can all relate to the isolation she dealt with, can't we? Finally, she heard that Jesus was in Capernaum and thought "If I just touch His garments, I will be healed". And she was. Jesus felt power leave him and knew that someone had touched him. He pulled her out of the crowd and lovingly called her "Daughter" after she tells Him what she did. He praised her for her faith, even if it was small and possibly a little superstitious. We should be encouraged by this, as often our faith is weak and small. We often try to fix our problems ourselves and go to God in prayer as a last resort, when we feel that there is nothing else we can do.

President Laura's Message Continued

To that end, I would encourage all of us to pray first. Keep God first and trust in Him first. He hears our prayers for what we may think is insignificant. He wants to know all our needs. You see, by praying for the "small stuff", God knows that we are putting Him first! He loves us and wants only what is for our good.

So, pray for the small things that you might be worried about or afflicted with. Pray for the big things that you suffer. Pray for control of the pandemic so that things may return to "normal". Pray for our country, our leaders, and our citizens. Pray for the LWML, your groups, your zones, your district levels, and your national levels. Pray that the service to the Lord may continue unhindered. Pray for your pastors, teachers, and missionaries, that they might find courage and strength to continue as Soldiers of the Cross.

We look forward to our District Convention. The theme remains "Proclaiming Jesus, 75 Years of Serving the Lord with Gladness". Our theme verse is Psalm 71: 17 "O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wonderous deeds." Our District Convention this year will be held virtually. Unfortunately, the restrictions and venue cannot accommodate all of us gathering in person. Each society will get an invitation in the mail and the zone presidents will get an email copy of the invitation as well. **We are planning on Saturday, May 1, 2021, beginning at 9:30 am. We are having a Bible study by Pastors Mohr and Pastor Spilker, our district counselors. We will be hearing from Pastor and Dorothy Schaser, missionaries to Madagascar who are CID mission grant recipients.** The mission grants that you choose prior to the convention will be presented. Our national **President Debbie Larson** has agreed to come and greet us virtually. They will uplift and encourage us. They will give us hope for the future, and we will find joy in their encouragement. **Please make plans with your friends, groups, or zones to gather and view the convention together.** Plan a small meal with guidelines in place. Plan a servant event to help others in your community. Plan an ingathering. Plan a celebration for 75 years!

Your invitation will include instructions on how to gain access to the convention. It will also contain instructions on how to vote on mission projects and bylaw changes. It will also include an offering remittance form to be divided for mites and operating funds. I look forward to seeing you all at convention!

We look forward to our **National Convention in Lexington, Kentucky on June 24-27, 2021.** Our speakers and mission grant recipients will reflect of our mites, given in love and prayer. Our Bible studies and worship services will be fortifying to build us up in our faith and giving us the strength to continue in our service to the Lord. **There will not be busses traveling to national this year.** If you would like to attend but cannot drive that far, please contact your zone president. I do not want lack of transportation to stop anyone from attending. Zone Presidents have been asked to connect ladies with each other to combine rides.

We look forward to our **Fall Rallies** again! Our theme this year is **"All things are Possible with Faith"** based on Mark 9:23. We hope by fall to be in person, and possibly capable of some hugging! Our fall retreat in October is already in the planning stages, and we will look forward to that also!

In closing, with all that we look forward to this year, continue praying for the small stuff. Keep trusting in God to grant us our needs and all good gifts. Rejoice and thank Him for gifts received daily. I thank God for all of you and look forward to seeing many of you in person this year. May God bless you in the New Year and always.

Laura Strattman

Banner Schedule

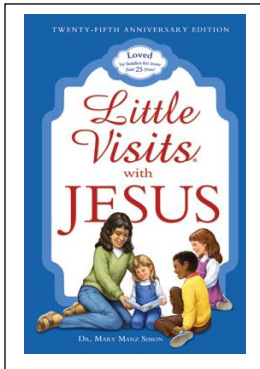
2021-2022 Banner Schedule for the National Convention Banner

December 2020	Decatur (4)	Sandy Haseley 217-620-3442 Sandykh1@comcast.net
January 2021	Lincoln (12)	Deloris Blessman 309-361-1461 delorisblessman@yahoo.com
May 2021	Springfield (14)	Debbie Rodenburg 217-725-9074 deborahrodensburg@sbcglobal.net
August 2021	Jacksonville (6)	Rita Tendick 217-476-5017 ritatendick@hotmail.com
October 2021	Bloomington (9)	Karla Hasler 309-824-4363 Karlajo54@yahoo.com
January 2022	Peoria/Pekin (11)	Barb Jennings 618-771-2397 Barbjennings154@gmail.com
April 2022	Quincy (9)	Laurie Bronson 217-617-7267 Nicen622@gmail.com
July 2022	Rock Island (10) HOME	Mary Donegan 309-781-2632 Doneganm75@yahoo.com

NOTE: If there are any problems with transfer, please give Sue a call at (217-341-2420), and she will make arrangements to complete the transfer. Thank you for your patience during these trying times.

Next Clarion Deadline is May 25!

Thank You



The Lutheran Laymen's League who sponsors the CID State Fair Booth would like to thank the LWML CID ladies for their generous grant of \$3,000. With this grant 600 copies of the book Little Visits with Jesus from Concordia Publishing House were purchased. This was the 25th year that Concordia Publishing House has printed Little Visits with Jesus. Concordia Publishing House offered a deal on these books marking them down from \$15.99 to \$5.00 therefore 600 copies were able to be purchased.

These books will be given away at the LLL State Fair Booth in August to each family with children that stops by the booth. These families are usually incredibly surprised when they receive a good quality book for free.

The fair booth gives away children's Bible story books, Bibles, Lutheran Hour Ministry booklets, and ice water. A zipper pull craft is also available to be made by the children who stop by the booth. If any ladies would like to volunteer at the State Fair Booth, please call Deloris Blessman at 309-361-1461. Thank you!

Mites Update



Finances for the LWML CID have been a real challenge this past year. Since many groups have not been able to meet, mites and operating donations are down from previous years but a total of \$50,000 has been paid for the first three mission grants, and \$16,605 has been sent to National to meet the National Goal. The mite goal for 2020 – 2021 is \$105,000 so as of the Board of Director's meeting on Monday, February 22, we still need \$38,000 to reach that goal. The Board was challenged by Pat Heinecke, VP of Mission Grants, with a need to raise \$10,000+ each week for the next three weeks.

The Board of Directors had earmarked \$15,000 from the operating account to help defray expenses for the 75th District Convention. Since the in-person convention has been cancelled for the second time, these funds will not be needed. The BOD voted to donate \$7500 of these funds to be used to meet the mite goal. In the past several months three former members that have served as Recording and Corresponding Secretaries on the Board of Directors have passed away. In memory of these ladies a special mite challenge was taken at the board meeting. \$1,649.26 was collected. The financial secretary reported that she had \$1850 in society contributions ready to be deposited. SEE – we have reached our first week \$10,000 challenge. Now we need to collect the next \$20,000!!!! How about having a Mighty Mites Sunday in March and ask all members to contribute all their coins toward the mite goal? Any of you ladies that have an IRA retirement account that requires you to take a Required Minimum Distribution may want to consider taking a partial tax-free distribution to a Not for Profit for the LWML CID Mite Account. Contact me at treasurer@lwmlcid.org to learn more about doing this.

All donations to the mite account must be mailed to Annie Guerretttaz, the Financial Secretary, before March 20th to be credited to this fiscal year. Keep up the generous giving, ladies! With God's help we can do this.

Linda Soltwedel

LWML CID Treasurer

Mighty Mites by a Mighty God

The first 2020-2021 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.

Even though our pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters seem like so little, when we gather them together, great things can be accomplished by God's grace. Rev. Michael Mohr (shown on right), LWML-CID Pastoral Counselor, is shown presenting the funds to Rev. Mark Miller (shown on left), LCMS-CID President. May we always remember the Lord gives us all these many blessings.



Pastor Miller reported at the Board Meeting on February 23, 2021, that the scholarship Fund had \$135,000 this year for scholarships which is more than in the past. There were 24 students who benefitted from these funds. The scholarships ranged from \$2000 to \$10,000. Below are just a few words of thanks from some of the recipients.

Samuel Smith of Immanuel – Broadlands “Thank you for your generous gifts. Without your generosity I would not be able to study at the seminary. Becoming a pastor has been my goal and desire since I was in high school, and I have been able to pursue that goal by the grace of God, who has sent people like you into my life to support me. I am the first young man from my church to go to the seminary. May God bless all of you this coming year!”

Clare Griffin of Trinity – Bloomington “I wanted to say thank you for the generous contribution towards the scholarship I received. I have been blessed with this scholarship for the last four years. It has helped me financially at Concordia Wisconsin. Overall, these funds will help future church workers! Thank you again for helping me, a future Lutheran School teacher. “

Brandon Sullivan of Our Redeemer - Eureka “We are blown away by God's faithfulness to us as we hurtled into this latest season of life. Thank you so much to our family and friends who have helped make these transitions as smooth as possible. Your support, prayers, and financial assistance is a huge blessing to our family as we prepare for the ministry. God love You!”

Joshua Teggatz of St. Matthew – Milan “I am currently a senior in the pre-seminary program. Thank you for granting me continued financial support for this coming academic year. In light of COVID, Concordia University in Chicago has provided as much face-to-face education as it can. I will be finishing out my English major with a couple of literature courses as well as my languages minor with a continuation of Greek and Hebrew reading courses. I have been accepted as a student at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis beginning in the fall of 2021. I am confident that through the care and talents of the faculty and staff, God will continue to mold me into the church worker that He has called me to be.”

Young Women's Representations

The LWML CID has selected two young women from our district to represent our members at the National LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky June 24 – 27, 2021. Let us get to know these young ladies...



Sarah Grillot is an active member at Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, Illinois. She also resides in Springfield with her husband, Morgan, who is a teacher at Trinity Lutheran School. Sarah and Morgan have two boys; ages 4 and 7. Prior to staying home with her children, Sarah was a Lutheran School teacher and she currently helps at Trinity Lutheran School as a Title 1 Tutor.

Sarah is honored to be chosen to serve the LWML CID as a Young Women Representative at the national convention! She looks forward to learning more about LWML and its missions while connecting and growing her relationship with her Savior. While building relationships with other young women who have the desire to serve the Lord in this same capacity, she hopes to become more involved in LWML activities at her church and in the Central Illinois District. This will be Sarah's first LWML National Convention, and she is excited about the experience.



Hannah Tappendorf is an active member at St. Paul Blue Point Lutheran Church in Altamont, Illinois. She also resides in Altamont with her parents and four siblings. Hannah is currently a college student at Lakeland Community College in Mattoon and is getting ready to transfer to the University of Illinois – Champaign to major in Agriculture Education. After school, Hannah hopes to become a high school agriculture teacher in Central Illinois. When Hannah is not studying, she enjoys being with her friends, baking, and knitting.

Hannah is extremely excited to attend the LWML National Convention in Lexington to meet with other young women to build and share their faith in fellowship. Also, Hannah is excited to represent her church and the Central Illinois District in such a role. This will not be Hannah's first LWML National Convention. Hannah was able to attend the LWML National Convention in Peoria in 2011. When Hannah attended the LWML National Convention in Peoria, she was only 10 years old. While at the convention, she was able to help prepare and iron aprons that the workers wore. Hannah has also attended Central Illinois District Conventions and rallies as a banner carrier and the President's page.



To the family and friends of:

Caroline Wilson

(Former Champaign Zone President and CID Recording Secretary in 2005)

Linda Hoelskoetter

(Former Lincoln Zone President in 2011 and CID Corresponding Secretary in 2009)

Helen Stremming

(CID Corresponding Secretary)

Gifts from the Heart



Starting in July, the boards members have been participating in bringing Gifts from the Heart donations for different organization in the Central Illinois District. The organizations are chosen by a different zone each meeting. The order is alphabetical so in July 2020 the Altamont Zone chose school supplies to be donated to LCMS Schools and food for the Altamont Food Bank. In October 2020, the Bloomington Zone chose health kits to be given to Lutheran World Relief. In February 2021, the Champaign Zone chose the women sheltered at Courage Connection to receive feminine hygiene and personal hygiene products.

Pictured are Linda Thiele (left) and Allison Arends (right) rejoicing over their donations. They are co-presidents of the Champaign Zone.

Quarterly Guidelines

Several groups had problems receiving their winter issue of the Quarterly. It was during the Christmas season which is busy with the postal service. Also, postal workers who tested positive for COVID may have reduced the number of workers. Some groups found the phone number in the front of the Quarterly to report to while others went through the publication chairman, Brenda Hendricks, to report the problem. Both are acceptable ways to deal with the problem. Current subscribers need to be aware that they should report lost or damaged copies promptly to make sure they get them. Sometimes, the USPS does deliver bulk copies on separate days depending on the volume of mail. Periodicals have a lower priority than first class mail. However, if a group does not receive all their copies within one week of when the first batch of copies is received, report the problem.



Pricing Information

*One to 9 copies to a single address are \$7.50 per copy per year.

*10 or more copies to a single address are \$6.00 per copy per year.

As an FYI, individual copy prices for those wanting to order extra copies of a single issue apart from a subscription are \$2.00 per additional single copy purchased plus postage. This does not affect subscription prices.

Per LWML policy, decreases can occur until **June 1st** each year, but if you miss the mail plant deadline, your change will not take effect until the next issue mailed by the mail plant. Please also remember that if you drop a society from your list, they can be re-added at any time to the mailing list for the *next* issue of the *Quarterly* to be mailed by the mail plant, but we **cannot guarantee that previous issues of the Quarterly already mailed by the mail plant will be available for them.**

National Convention



Lutheran Women's Missionary League
invites you to the

39th Biennial Convention

Thursday, June 24–Sunday, June 27, 2021
Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center • Lexington, Kentucky

“Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus.”

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:1–2)

The members of the 2021 LWML Convention Hosting Districts — Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio — are excited to have the opportunity and privilege to be your hosts for the 39th Biennial LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky.

Safety is a priority. The LWML Board of Directors (BOD) is aware of the seriousness of the COVID-19 virus and has taken steps to limit its impact on the upcoming convention, which is still planned as an in-person event. The official capacity of Rupp Arena in Lexington, Kentucky, is 20,500. Given the size of the arena, social distancing will not be an issue. The LWML has considered all aspects of the convention and has protocols for each event and every situation, should they be necessary at the time convention attendees meet. All guidelines issued by state and federal authorities will be followed. The LWML Convention Programming Committee has developed safety precautions and protocols for registration, servant activities, exhibits, delegate seating, worship, meals, offerings, and the Winner's Circle Celebration. Many of those attending may have had vaccinations by convention time. As things continue to change and develop, detailed updates will be shared as convention time draws near.

All registration information can be found in the Winter Quarterly and at www.LWML.org. Early Registration has been extended to April 14th.

Upcoming Events

**Central Illinois Convention in Arenzville, IL
Live-Streaming - May 1**

LWML National Convention – June 24 – 27, 2021, in Lexington, Kentucky