

# *The Clarion*

## *August 2022 Volume XXV Issue 12*

### **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***

#### **Light up the World with Christ!**

Are you lighting up the world with Christ? Do you spread your joy to those around you? Do others often show you their lights when they say a kind word or simply smile at you in the store when you are having a not particularly good day? I would challenge you to always have your "game face" on when you are out and about. Often, even when we do not feel that we are able to shine Christ's light, just the act of smiling at others will bring you that joy. You often will not know how you have made someone's day.

How do we go about getting and maintaining that light? **King David says in Psalm 119: 105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (KJV)".** It is a great gift of God that we have His Word. In God's Word, He daily reminds us that we are His children, holy and righteous before God. Start your day in the Word so you can go through the day, remembering what God told you that morning. Reminding ourselves that we are HIS daily allows us to shine the love of Christ to others. On the website lwml.org, there are so many resources to renew your light - daily Mustard Seeds, Two-Minute Tuesdays, Bible studies, and now there is a calendar to read through the Bible in one year! Our Public Relations Chairman, Sue McGuire, has been sending these out to your zone presidents monthly. I pray that some of you are participating in the reading plan.

**Our Fall Rallies are fast approaching with this same theme verse. Beginning September 13-15<sup>th</sup> and September 20-22, 2022, we will be "Lighting up the world with Christ".** Please plan on attending and being surrounded by the light of your sisters in Christ. We are hoping that the zones will be collecting light bulbs for the local food pantries. Often, light bulbs are very expensive to buy for someone of limited means. Light is a very great gift. Anyone who has had a power outage from a storm knows this. Our speakers will be Rev. Rodney Blomquist, who will be speaking about his prison ministry in Taylorville, and Rev. Martin Eden, who will be speaking on the mission work that he helps with in Uganda. Both speakers will bring to light (pun intended) what your mites help to accomplish throughout the world! We are lighting up the world with Christ!

Everything that you do in your groups are little lights to your neighbors. You may never know whether that quilt that you make for Orphan Grain Train is the only comfort the recipient gets in months. You may never know the impact that your layettes, your school kits, or your dresses have on an individual. Yet, we keep doing it because Christ has done so much for us. I am continually awed by all that you do. Your ongoing work for the community, zone, district, and beyond does not go unnoticed. Our greatest prayer is that those who receive our gifts may see the light of Jesus and the love that goes into the making of the gift.

## President's Message...continued

Other upcoming events where you can renew your light include **LWML Sunday**. **The theme this year is “For Us and With Us” based on Romans 8: 31-39**. This is based on Paul's letter to the Romans. Paul tells us that each of us has faced challenges and circumstances greater than our own strength. But, in Christ, who is for us and with us, we are already more than conquerors through Him who loves us. **The resources are now available on the website [lwml.org](http://lwml.org).**

**Our Fall Retreat is coming up October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022.** Our theme will be **“God's Quilt of Comfort: Wrapping up in the Psalms”**. We will be led in this retreat by the author, Diane Grebing. It will be a combined retreat with the ladies of the Southern Illinois District at Camp CILCA. Please register now using the registration sheet downloadable on the **website [lwmlcid.org](http://lwmlcid.org)**. **Click on upcoming events!** Bring a quilt with a story and pin the description to it. Sharing will be awesome. **For our “What's your 80?” project in celebration of LWML's 80-year anniversary this year, we will be collecting pillows for Camp CILCA.** Come join the fun and recharge your batteries in the Word!

Next year's **district convention will be held in Quincy, IL at the Oakley Lindsey Center on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** The theme will be **“Thy King-dom Come!” based on Zechariah 9:10b “..he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.”** We are pleased to have Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer as our keynote speaker and Cindy Steinwedel from LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Teams) as our mission speaker. It should prove to be a joyous and mission filled day.

Following our district convention in April, we will be travelling up to **Milwaukee Wisconsin for the 40<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of LWML on June 22-25, 2023.** The theme is **“Celebrate the Lord of the Nations” based on Psalm 33: 12-13 “Blessed is the nation whose God is Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man”**. A bus trip is scheduled, and sign-up sheets will be at the zone rallies! **Please be sure and save the dates! If you are asked to be a delegate or alternate for the convention, say “Yes”!** This is an awesome way to participate in the events of the week!

With all the ways in which God provides for us to be recharged in our faith, we cannot help but let our lights shine before men, so that others may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven (paraphrased from Matt 5: 16). I look forward to seeing some of you at the Fall Rallies and more of you at the Fall Retreat! May God continue to bless you all and may God bless the LWML Central Illinois District.

**Your Sister in Christ,  
Laura Stratman**

**Next Clarion Deadline is October 25<sup>th</sup>!**

## Mites! Mites! Mites!

Greetings from your new Vice President- Gospel Outreach and Mission Grants. We are off to a good start with our mites, but as always, more is needed. At our board meeting on July 26th, zone presidents and officers were given Mite Bytes for the 2022-2023 year. If you do not see them in your bulletins soon, please ask your group leader to contact your zone president. We want to get the word out about our grants and keep those mite boxes full. These can also be viewed on the LWML CID website.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for supplying our every need. May our mite offerings be used to bring Christ to the nations and to help those in need, especially those in need of your grace. To You be the glory! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Vice-President of Gospel Outreach and Mission Grants,  
Cheryl Long

## Young Women Representatives

Do you know of a young woman in your congregation that likes to be “treated like a queen”? Young women representatives are needed for the National LWML Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in June 2023 where they will be treated like queens. The woman preferably should be between 22-35 years of age. While 22-35 is the suggested age, women who are slightly outside of the age range are acceptable. She must be a member of the LCMS and has not previously attended a national convention as a Young Woman Representative. She should have a deep love and devotion for her Lord Jesus Christ and should be able to participate in the full scope of the convention. She must be able to be away from home/work/children for the entire convention and the travel time involved. She will be asked to report on her convention experience either orally or in written form to the district, zone, or society that nominated her.

The Central Illinois District board selects the candidate. More information can be found on the LWML website at <http://www.lwml.org/ywr>. The application can be found on our Central Illinois District website: <http://lwmlcid.org/young-womens-recruitment/>. The application is due by **September 30<sup>th</sup>** and can be mailed to: Stephanie Meats 17925 St. Mary's Road New Berlin, IL 62670 or sent electronically to [ywr@lwmlcid.org](mailto:ywr@lwmlcid.org) or [stephaniemeats29@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniemeats29@gmail.com). If you or any young woman from your congregation/group is interested in the position and have questions, they can reach out to me via email or they can call me at 217-473-1761.

All groups are encouraged to scout out your congregations to find a young woman to apply for this position which will be an awesome experience for her. She will return with enthusiasm for the LWML!

Young Women's Recruitment Chairman,  
Stephanie Meats

# Human Care News

## District Convention Ingathering

A big thank you for all the items brought to the Convention in April for Orphan Grain Train. We had over 1200 quilts, 100 bags of clothing, 33 bags of children's clothing plus lots of diapers and supplies, 177 health kits, 55 boxes of school supplies, 8 boxes of medical supplies, 5 walkers, 7 canes and 5 pair of crutches. We also had 156 toys, 118 little dresses, 25 sheet sets, 2 boxes of kitchen items and 10 boxes of food. Many of these items are going to Ukraine and surrounding countries. Thank you again!

## Orphan Grain Train

An Orphan Grain Train truck will be at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Springfield on October 22 from 9:30-11:00. Please mark on the outside of your bag or box what your items are. Numbers are not important. Bags are fine for clothing and quilts. Please keep school supplies together and do not mix them with other items. Any questions, contact me: Sharol Bolton, Human Care Chairman at (217-737-1106).

## Little Dresses

Little dresses may be brought to your fall rally, or you can send them to the district board meeting in October with your zone president. They may also be brought to Springfield for the Orphan Grain Train truck on October 22. Dresses will be sent to Orphan Grain Train. (Missionaries are not able to go to Madagascar at this time.) I would like some pictures to display next April for the CID Convention. You may send the pictures to: [humancare@lwmlcid.org](mailto:humancare@lwmlcid.org). Thank you!

## “What’s Your 80?”



The members of Faith Lutheran Church in Lincoln have been making baby blankets for their “What’s Your 80” project to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National LWML. The blankets are being taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield. Two of the granddaughters of one of the members have been helping the quilting group. They are so proud to help deliver the baby blankets to those in need.

**(Please submit your “What’s Your 80?” articles and pictures so all groups can read about these great mission minded projects.)**

## Banner Schedule

August 2022

Lincoln (8)

Deloris Blessman  
309-361-1461  
lincoln@lwmlcid.org

October 2022

Springfield (14)

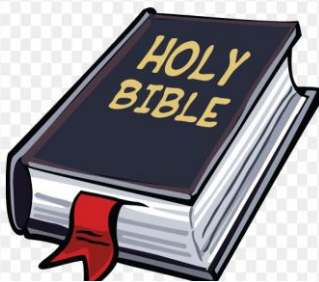
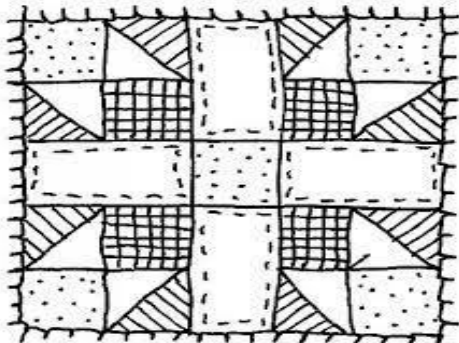
Debbie Rodenburg  
217-725-9074  
springfield@lwmlcid.org

December 2022

Jacksonville (6)

Rita Tendick  
217-473-5017  
jacksonville@lwmlcid.org

## Fall Retreat



“God’s Quilt of Comfort – Wrapping Up in the Psalms” will be the theme of the LWML Bible Study/Retreat at Camp CILCA on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. It is hosted by LWML Central Illinois District and the LWML Southern Illinois District. The Bible study will be led by author Diane Grebing. Registration begins on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 with dinner at 5:00. The retreat begins at 6:00 PM on Friday and resumes at 8:00 AM on Saturday. Registration forms can be found at the website [www.lwmlcid.org](http://www.lwmlcid.org). There is also a registration form on the following page. If you want to bring a special quilt, please include a description with your registration form.

**Registration deadline is  
September 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

### National Mite Offerings Received

Amounts as of June 30, 2022

**Mission Goal for 2021–2023 Biennium: \$2,150,000.00**

**Amount Received: \$1,597,844.38**

# LWML Retreat Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobility Issues \_\_\_\_\_

## EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## HOUSING FACILITIES (On site location to be assigned by committee)

Christian Growth Center (bathroom in room/3 per room)

Retreat Center (shared bathroom facilities)

Cabins (Cabins Heated, bathroom facilities within short walking distance)

Camp Sites (Please contact Pastor Theilen for availability 217-487-7497)

If you would like to stay off site there are a variety of local hotels available at your own cost.

## ROOMMATE REQUESTS

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION – **DEADLINE 09/23/22**

Full Retreat (3 meals & housing) \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_


Retreat Event (3 meal & no housing) \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_


Saturday Only (1 meal) \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_


### Checks Payable to: LWML CID

**Mail Registration & Payment to Deloris Blessman, 24204 CR 1850 N, Topeka, IL  
61567**

Please bring a new standard size pillow. We are hoping to collect 80 pillows to benefit Camp Cilca's ministry in honor of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LWML.

 Bring your Bible

 Bring your colored pencils or markers for a journal project

 Registration at Dining Hall

 Questions/Concerns please contact

Registrar Deloris Blessman at 309-361-1461 or delorisblessman@yahoo.com

 **REGISTRATION DEADLINE – September 23, 2022**