

The Clarion

August 2023 Volume 26 Issue 3

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I write to you while overlooking some of the beautiful architecture in Milwaukee, WI. Last evening, I had the privilege of worshipping with a couple thousand of my fellow Lutherans for the second time in as many months! What a wonderful worship service it was! There were more male voices in the crowd this time! "We Preach Christ Crucified" is the theme for the synodical convention. Why is this so important? Unless we realize that we are all sinners and fail to meet the expectations of our Almighty God, we will never value the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus Christ made on our behalf that first Good Friday. His victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil with His resurrection that first Easter Sunday allows us to live for Him and to die in Him. Our eternal life with Him in heaven is the reason we, as Lutheran Women in Mission, strive to spread the gospel to all nations! We want everyone to have that same joy and confidence in their salvation! All that we do as Lutheran Women in Mission in service to others opens relationships to bring the Gospel to them so they may have the same hope we have.

Beginning September 12, our Fall Rallies will start throughout the district. The theme this year is "Abound in Love for One Another" based on John 13:34 "...Love one another just as I have loved you..." (NEV). Our presenters will be Rev. Rodney Blomquist who will inform us on the prison ministry throughout CID which focuses on loving all people, just as Christ loved us. Our other presenters will be from the Orphan Grain Train who will tell how the Gospel is spread through acts of mercy shown to the recipients of our gifts. Please be sure and attend, pray and worship with your sisters! I hope to see many of you there!

LWML Sunday is usually celebrated on the first Sunday in October, though it may be celebrated anytime. This year's theme is "The King is Coming" based on Psalm 24:7-10. The materials should be on the lwml.org website shortly. Please be sure and let the women (and men) know who you are as Lutheran Women in Mission. Tell them about our district mission grants and national grants. Tell them about the resources available to them on the website. Invite your friends personally to the LWML Rally in your zone, explaining to them what the rallies are for and what we do. Tell them about gatherings that show love to our communities, prayer, and Bible Studies with our sisters in Christ.

October 6-7, 2023, is the date for the Fall Retreat at Camp CILCA! "Journey to Faith: The Trip of a Lifetime" is the theme for the weekend. Plan on attending this Bible studying, faith building, and fellowship enhancing weekend! There are fun events included in this retreat, and of

course, there is always good food! The registration form is included in this Clarion and will be on the website. Deadline to register is September 22, 2023. As they say, “the more the merrier!” Hope to see you there.

The 79th LWML CID Convention will be held April 26, & 27, 2024 at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 3300 24th St. Rock Island, IL 61201-6212. The theme will be “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling” based on Luke 10:2 “And he said to them, the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Save the date now! Plan on coming with your friends on Friday for the afternoon servant events. Afterwards, gather for a wonderful worship service and fellowship with your sisters throughout the district. On Saturday, you can enjoy the convention Bible study, singing, speakers, and breakout sessions. Volunteer to be a delegate from your church to vote on mission grants that will be selected for the upcoming year. Help shape the future of the LWML CID!

Speaking of Officers, there are several officer positions that will be voted for in this upcoming convention. **We will be voting on a new President, Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Communication, Financial Secretary, and a Junior Pastoral Counselor.** Do you hear the voice of Jesus’ calling? Do you know someone with the skills needed for these positions that may be able to assist the LWML CID go forward in its mission to “Joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others?” (LWML Mission statement) You may find out what these positions entail by visiting the lwmlcid.org website and looking in the guidelines, or by asking your zone president for a nomination form. If you think that you might want to serve on the board for the next President, please let your zone president know so that she may pass that information along. Pray that God would point you to the path that He wants you on. **Candidate suggestions are due by October 31, 2023.**

As LWML wishes to engage with our Church Workers in the district, I would direct your attention to the lwml.org website to pursue ways to support the church workers in your church. Search for the document “Ideas for the LWML Districts to Support, Encourage, and Care for Church Workers. One way to do this is to support your Pastor’s wife. The annual Pastor’s wives Retreat will be held at Camp CILCA on October 13-14, 2023. Soon the pastor’s wives will be getting an invitation to the event. Sharla Fritz will be presenting “Enough for Now”. She is a Pastor’s wife from Aurora, IL and a wonderful Bible Study leader and writer. My prayer is that your group would offer to financially support your pastor’s wife to attend this retreat. Understanding that some groups may not be able to do this, please encourage your congregation in their financial support for her. Your pastor’s wife is an integral part of his life, his support and helpmate. Although she does not have the call to your church, her life is very much attached to his call. This retreat will offer her an opportunity to be with other women who understand her role and be an encouragement to her when needed. Be sure and include any widowed and emeritus pastor’s wives, they have fought the good fight, and we gain knowledge from them.

There is much information in this article, and I would hope that you will mark your calendars with dates of opportunities to be with your sisters in Christ. I ask you to continue in your prayers for the LWML CID. I thank God for your continued support of the ongoing missions in our district and our national mission grants. **Central Illinois Mission grant proposals are due by October 31, 2023.** Please be sure and look around for mission grant proposals to submit.

I thank God for all of you and I look forward to seeing you soon!

Your Sister in Christ, Laura Strattman

The AUNT with ONE GRANT

I think many of you have seen the commercial for bundling your insurance where the new homeowners have ants. Only when you see them, they are the two legged kind. Being an aunt to eight and great aunt to thirteen, I find it funny and maybe a thought for visiting them! This article is about MITE GRANTS and the lack thereof at this point. The Mite Grant Committee needs more grant proposals for consideration later this fall. Please think about these things: 1-Gospel and mission outreach, 2-fitting into the plans of LCMS, 3-has been approved by CID LCMS mission committee, 4-is ready for implementation and lastly, 5-well documented. LWML CID Mission Grant Proposal forms are available on the website and these guidelines are stated there and explained further. At this time, I have received one proposal. Please look around your zone and area for opportunities for funding and write up that proposal. Deadline for submitting is OCTOBER 31, 2023.

Cheryl Long, VP of Gospel Outreach and Mission Grants

Upcoming Elections

It is time once again to contemplate and pray about the LWMLer's who will lead the LWML CID in the coming years. We will elect at the April 2024 District Convention four women and a pastor to the following offices: President, Vice President of Christian Life, Vice President of Communications, Financial Secretary and a Junior Pastor Counselor. The nominating forms are on the website. Look over the suggested "qualifications" for each office, and I bet someone will come to mind for each office. So please carefully look at the members of your group and zone and consider people who might be a good "fit" for the different offices. Remember the Nominating Committee with contact the received suggestions, so you do not have to. And guess what, you can even nominate yourself, if the Spirit moves you to! Then mail or email them to the address or email at the top of the form by October 31, 2023. Any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me at prinpat@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help in urging others to serve the Lord,

Pat Heinecke, LWML CID Nominating Committee Chair

Next Deadline for Clarion is October 25th.

**This edition will contain articles on
the rallies, retreat, and some more "What's Your 80" Projects**

**LWML National Convention – 2025
in Omaha, Nebraska**

National LWML Convention

June 22-25, 2023

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Approximately 3500 attendees enjoyed a great convention in downtown Milwaukee at the Baird Center with the theme “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations”. Servant events, elections, Bible studies, exhibit displays, Mite speakers, entertainment, and worship services were just a few of the many parts of this very organized convention. 144 Central Illinois District attendees were enlightened and entertained by the events and the new friendships that were made.



Top: CID Bus travelers Lower left: Kaye Wolfe, Bible study leader Lower middle: Jan Struck, humorous interrupter Lower right: Welcoming signs along the streets in downtown Milwaukee



Top left: Lutheran Lounge Ladies entertainment Top right: the convention stage Middle right: 2021 – 2023 LWML President, Debbie Larson Middle center: CID group photo Middle right: Auction of the CID quilt Lower left: CID banner in the banner procession Lower right: Riverwalk sign to assure the ladies that they were half way finished

“What’s Your 80?” Projects

Even though the National Convention is over and the celebration of the 80th year of LWML is over, there were some projects that did not get highlighted in the Clarion. These will still be featured in the editions yet to come for the year 2023.

Effingham – Shelby Zone

Our Savior Lutheran Church Ladies Aid of Lawrenceville did “What’s Your 80” projects for two local organizations. Fish and Loaves is an organization that supplies students and their families in our schools with food over the weekends, every week during the school year. Give a Basket is an organization that supplies the elderly with gift baskets to let them know that they are still important to the community around them.



Lincoln Zone



To help celebrate the 80th anniversary of the National LWML, the ladies from the Lincoln Zone have been busy gathering items to fill shoeboxes for Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Shoebox. Each group within the zone filled boxes with goodies for three various age groups for both boys and girls. We then met as a zone to gather all the boxes together. It was a great mission project and our zone ended

up with 94 boxes, along with \$580 to help with shipping costs. They were taken to a drop-off location in Havana and from there, they will go to a warehouse in Minnesota to be distributed where needed this coming Christmas. Our ladies were excited to do some of their Christmas shopping early to help several needy children have a Blessed Christmas later this year.

“What’s Your 80?” Projects

Danville Zone

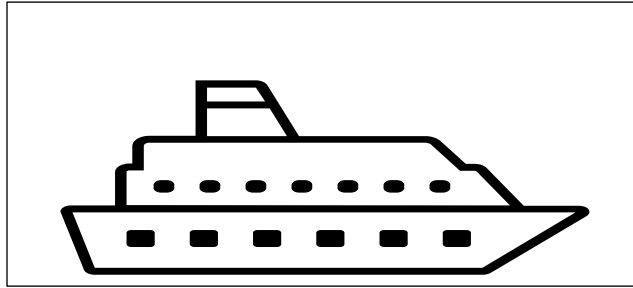


Members and friends of St. John’s Ladies Aid/LWML stood on the steps of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Buckley to display the school kits and hygiene kits that they put together for the Orphan Grain Train in recognition of the 80th Anniversary of the LWML.

Young Women Representatives



The Central Illinois District sent four young ladies to the National Convention in Milwaukee. Their days were filled with activities, entertainment, worship, and fellowship. Pictured left to right are Christina Antemante, Nicole Boeder, Anne Jesgarz, and Nicole Crank.



LWML CID FALL RETREAT

Journey To Faith: The Trip For A Lifetime

October 6 & 7 5:00 p.m. Friday

If just coming Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

CAMP CILCA

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Several ladies are bringing bazaar type items that will be available for sale with all proceeds going to Mites.

If you would like to contribute items, please have them priced and be prepared to take items back home that do not sell.
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Registration Form – Try to Include Roommates Forms in one envelope.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Roommate Suggestions: Christian Growth Center 3 per room

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Friday and Saturday: \$50; Friday & Saturday Commuters or Campers: \$40; Saturday only: \$35

Make checks payable to LWML – CID

Registration Deadline September 22, 2023

Send Registration forms to: Deloris Blessman, 24204 CR 1850N, Topeka, IL 61567