

# The Clarion

## November 2024 Volume 29 Issue 4

### A Message from President Cheryl

*Sing to the Lord of harvest, Sing songs of love and praise; With joyful hearts and voices, Your alleluias raise. By Him the rolling seasons, In fruitful order move; Sing to the Lord of harvest, A joyous song of love. LSB 893 vs.1*

By now, October has passed us by. The “rolling seasons” move quickly and we wonder where the time went. But God has a “fruitful order” for these seasons. For those of us in the country, crops have been harvested and we see open spaces again. We are reminded of the vastness of God’s creation, at least in our corner of the world. We thank him for the bounty we received from these crops and the safe harvesting of them. It will not seem long until farmers are watching those fields for signs of life: life of the new crops they have planted.

Our mission fields are much the same. We look to see new crops springing up. Our missionaries are taking the Gospel to empty or almost barren fields, and that field may be right next door, not just across the sea. Our first mission grant will help students learning to bring the Gospel to people: some to congregations, as well as some to beginning believers who have not heard until now. We praise God for the funding of this first grant.

Annie and I, as well as our counselors, enjoyed and were encouraged at our Fall Rallies. While the idea of Hide and Seek as a game was a fun insight, we KNOW where to find Him. His Word and Sacraments are so readily available to us. May we never lose sight of that blessing. We were blessed to have 49 individuals attend the LWML CID Fall Retreat. It was a blessing to have so many and to enjoy the Bible study sessions. Good food and the making of 10 tied blankets for Phil’s Friends kept us **Experiencing the Joy**. NOW, we need to keep sharing God’s blessings with others.

As I mentioned rolling seasons earlier, I will tell you the Lincoln zone is working toward a wonderful district convention April 25-26, 2025. Planting Seeds of Faith based on 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 serves as our basis. Convention speakers and breakout session leaders are being secured. Keep this date in mind. In late January, I will attend a Presidents’ Assembly meeting in Omaha. Plans and information for the June 26-29, 2025 convention will be received. Look to your Winter Quarterly for more information. See, Rolling Seasons is a most appropriate line in the hymn.

I will close by encouraging you to go to your hymnal and read the Harvest and Thanksgiving section of hymns, numbers 892 through 895. If you happen to land in the Praise and Adoration section that is a few hymns earlier, consider them also. Look up the associated Bible verses noted at the bottom of the hymn page. Seek and Find the Lord in His Word and in the hymnal.

Blessings on your days as you Serve the Lord with Gladness!

# Zone Fall Rallies

## Champaign Zone

The Champaign Zone Fall Rally was held in the morning, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Mattoon, on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. We had 40 in attendance.

After a great breakfast and before we started, I read a Prayer for Healing 09/11, asking God to comfort those who are still grieving and heal those who are still hurting. Our guest speaker was Rev. Eden, speaking about the Lutheran Church of Uganda. Pastor Mike Burdick read greetings from Pastor Mohr, CID-LCMS Dist. President, who could not attend. **Seek the Lord** was the Bible Study topic. God wants us to find him and he wants to be known.

**One Stop Community Christmas** was the ingathering, with over 200 organizations to provide help and hope to families in 7 counties. They were in need, this year, for us to help provide underwear. We collected 186 total items and \$265.00 in cash.

We had a guest, a daughter of the St. John's group from Mattoon, who now lives in Florida that spoke about the IRIS Lending Library for the Blind and the need to find a different location for all their books, etc. She gave all those that attended an angel ornament made out of Braille paper.

## Effingham/Shelby Zone



The Effingham/Shelby Zone held their Fall Rally on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The Ladies Aid of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sigel hosted the event that was attended by 42 members, 6 pastors, and 6 guests. The Vacancy Pastor, Rev. Earl Brown led the opening devotion. The theme for the day was "Seek the Lord." Dr. Gerald Perschbacher shared about his work with Orphan Grain Train. District Sr. Pastoral Counselor, Rev. Ryan Meyer led the Bible study entitled "Seek the Lord."

Business included electing Diane Wetherell as Zone Secretary-Treasurer. Annie Guerretaz, LWML Vice-President of Christian Life, shared information about things going on in CID. Elaine Probst and ladies from the Dieterich area presented the skit entitled "Breaking News." The ladies collected 428 food and personal care items and \$205 for the Neoga Community Food Pantry, Neoga, IL. It was a great day to "Seek the Lord" "in His Son Jesus because that is where He has promised to be for us."

## Jacksonville Zone



Jacksonville Zone Fall Rally was held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Beardstown, IL on Sept. 11 where they served a salad luncheon. The ladies presented the play: Breaking News from downtown Omaha, Nebraska promoting the 2025 LWML Convention. Thirty nine people attended a wonderful day planned by President Rosemary Frazee and members of the Ladies Aid in Missions Society.

*From left: Sue Erickson (Anchor) Lorrie Reynolds, Sabrina Kettner, Pat Wellenkamp, Carol McCombs (LWML Sisters) and Ann Chelette (Reporter).*

## Peoria/Pekin Zone



The Peoria/Pekin Zone Rally was held at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Peoria and 23 ladies were in attendance. The attendees collected items for the food pantry along with \$295.00 for Redeemer Food Pantry and Pathway Ministries Women's Shelter.



Ladies of Redeemer Dorcas Group

# LWML SUNDAY CELEBRATION

## Springfield Zone – St. John's Lutheran Church, New Berlin

On September 29, 2024, the Mary Martha Group of St. John's celebrated LWML Sunday by showcasing over 80 Little Dresses to be shipped via Orphan Grain Train for distribution to girls in Africa, South America, Haiti and even in the United States. The ladies of Mary Martha have been gathering together for the past 6 years to sew pillowcase dresses. Since the start of the Little Dresses Mission project, the congregation of St. John's has donated over 500 pillowcases, 200 packages of bias tape, and 300 yards of elastic. These donations translate into the Mary Martha Group utilizing their gifts to support over 500 disadvantaged girls to receive a new dress.



## Orphan Grain Train – October 26, 2024

A message from Sharol Bolton:

Wow! CID you have done it again. You brought so much to the Orphan Grain Collection that they had to get a U-Haul to get everything loaded. A good problem to have!

We collected more than 1,000 quilts, over 100 bags of clothes and shoes, many school kits and hygiene kits, cases of water, lots of food, medical supplies, over 200 pillowcase dresses, and miscellaneous items too numerous to count.

We also collected \$4,000 for OGT. WOW!!

A big thank you to our helpers at Our Saviors, their help is amazing! Thank you everyone!!!



# Lutheran High School Springfield, IL – New Bus

Forty+ years ago a few parents who had small children wanted an alternative to the Public and Catholic schools in the Springfield area. They got together at a few of the Lutheran churches in the area and had this idea of building a Lutheran High School. Their dreams happened and thus Lutheran High School in Springfield, Illinois was established. It had very modest and humble beginnings starting at local schools and churches until one day land was bought on West Washington Street. It started with some trailers that they outgrew and next came a gym. Eventually more classrooms were built, and most recently was the addition of the auditorium and more classrooms.

However, recently on Father's Day weekend in 2022 the janitor noticed some strange things happening at the school. You see the whole city of Springfield except the downtown area is built on old, abandoned mines. The mines under the school began to collapse and the school began to sink. Cracks began to appear, steel beams were twisted, and there was a two-foot difference between one side of the gym to the other side. After an independent engineer looked at the school it was decided that the school could not safely continue to have school in that building. The members of the board had a lot of decisions to make quite quickly and soon with the Lord's guidance a temporary home was established for Lutheran High School. This is not a permanent fix but, it got us so that we were able to start the school year within a couple days of the original start time. This temporary situation is on the other side of Springfield from its current location. In the state of Illinois, the max payout for mine subsidence is \$750,000 unless you buy the very expensive additional insurance supplement. So, with LWML CID's generous support we were able to purchase an additional bus to help with transporting students from one of the other church's locations to our current location. We are very thankful for all the prayers and support that we have and continue to receive from the Central Illinois District LWML.

On the positive side Lutheran High has purchased land on Chatham Road in Springfield. An architect has been hired to start designing our new building. We are very excited about the future of Lutheran High. If you would like more information or to find out what is new with Lutheran High School or ways you can help support go to [www.Springfieldlutheran.com](http://www.Springfieldlutheran.com).



Pictured above Left is: LWML CID Executive & Appointed Board Members at the October 2024 Board Meeting @ Camp Cillca. Also, present Lutheran High School Principal Zack Klug and Lutheran High School Board Member Sharon Krohe.

Pictured above Right is: The New Bus purchased by LWML CID.

Pictured below: A Thank You from the Lutheran High Students!