



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

January 7, 2021
District Virtual Event
(See page 6 for details)



January 15, 2021
Newsletter submission
deadline



January 15, 2021
National Convention YWR
Applications due

Reminder!

Dues and Quarterly
subscriptions are due.

Dues are \$10.00 and
Quarterly subscriptions
are \$6.00.

***Please give these to your
group treasurer.***

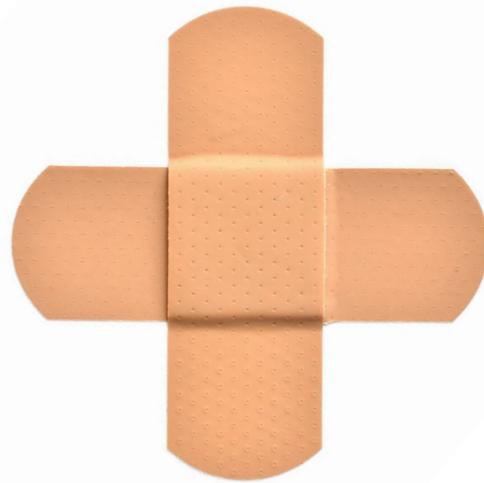
Utah-Idaho District Mission Statement

The mission of the Utah-Idaho
District Lutheran Women's
Missionary League is to
develop and maintain a mission
consciousness among the
women of the district and to
assist them in using their gifts
to the glory of the Triune God.

www.utahidaholwml.org

U & I Together

January 2021



I Can't Fix Stupid

by Melody Rosenwinkel

I saw a sign in a store that said "I can't fix stupid." I laughed and then I started thinking about all the stupid things I've done. What about you?

In our Lutheran Liturgy we read, 1 John 1:8-9: *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

As we start a new year, we may think about things we want to do, not do, or do differently. Let's pray to God our Father for wisdom and the strength to do what needs to be done.

No, I cannot fix stupid but my God can. He forgives me and you for all of those things we've done and continue to do.

My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous (1 John 2:1 NAS).

God is here for us, always, no matter what. He is here to forgive us, and to help us make wise, thoughtful, and responsible choices. Thank you, Lord. We can DO nothing without You. Amen



A Letter from Lois

Happy New Year, my dear Friends!

Happy, you ask? Well, "happy" sounds like a temporary state of mind. Perhaps we can replace it with "blessed" or "joyful" because we look beyond this life to eternal life. We trust in His promises given to us through Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. Yes, we can rejoice in all circumstances because of the hope we have in Christ.

A recent Christmas greeting I received included a Mustard Seed that explained the Hebrew meaning of Bethlehem: House of Bread. How appropriate! Jesus called Himself the Bread of Life. During this New Year, recall our House of Bread as you read His Word and feast upon the life-giving bread and wine of Holy Communion. Celebrate this gift and let it bring you joy and hope in this New Year.

Blessings to you and your family!
Lois

Advent Mission Gifts

Kathy Carlson, District Financial Secretary, reported a total of \$1,391.94 as of December 15, 2020, in support of our mission grants. Thank you everyone for your contributions to the Advent Mission Gift. Thank you for sharing your gifts to help spread the love of Jesus to the recipients of our grants.

YWR Applications Due January 15

By Cheryl Brunson, VP of Special Focus Ministries

The deadline to submit an application is fast approaching for young women interested in being the district's Young Woman's Representative to the 2021 National Convention in Lexington, Kentucky. The YWR and an alternate will be chosen from the Central Zone; however, if we can send an additional one, she will come from the district at large. **Click HERE** for the YWR application and guidelines.



LWML

National Update

by Lois Anderson

The 2021 meeting of the Presidents Assembly and Board of Directors (BOD) has been changed from Lexington, Kentucky, to the comfort of our own homes! On Thursday and Friday, January 21-22, 2021, the Presidents Assembly will meet with the BOD via Zoom for various sessions: business; training and equipping; and networking and discussion. Information from these meetings will be shared with you in the February U & I. We're all eager to attend and to know if the convention in Lexington will come to fruition. The trend of this health crisis during the next three months will lead the LWML Board of Directors to make a safe and sound decision. Please keep these LWML leaders in your daily prayers as they seek to do the Lord's will.

BOOK REVIEW: ODDBALLS of the Bible, by Rev. Steve Barckholtz

Rev. Steve Barckholtz of Clover Lutheran Church has written a book that shows us how God is always at work through the lives of ordinary, even obscure, men and women. The Holy Spirit inspired their one verse, one event, to be included in the Bible for a purpose. What is so important about these "Oddballs" that we needed to know them, especially by name? The author will reveal how these men and women in God's Word will help YOU grow and live YOUR faith today! Short chapters would make interesting Bible studies. Rev. Steve can be reached at revinboots@gmail.com.

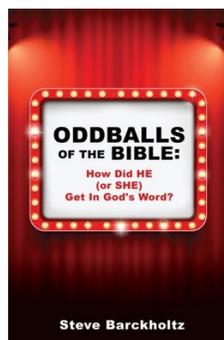


photo: rdbooks.org

Your Mites at Work: Equipping People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to Share the Gospel \$4,000 - Bethesda Lutheran Communities Auxiliary

The goal of this grant is to share the gospel with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Bethesda is teaching them how to share their faith with family and friends. This grant will provide the opportunity to share the gospel with people in large venues and in their congregations. The funds will be used for mentoring expenses, mileage/travel, and conference costs.



Paint the Planet Purple – What does this mean?



The official colors of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League are purple and gold. Purple, symbolizes royalty, and gold symbolizes value and integrity. The vision of the LWML is to recognize that each woman is welcomed

and encouraged to use her unique God given gifts as she supports global mission and serves the Lord with gladness.

When you use your gifts to serve God, "Jesus' love in action," you are spreading the word of Christ around the world. You are painting the planet purple!

Please share with us how you and others have shared Jesus' love in action. Please send your stories and or pictures to Jeannie Barrette VP of Gospel Outreach.



Thrivent Grief Packages for Parents

by Carolyn Perez

Our Thrivent office has recently had the opportunity to partner with two area hospitals, Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center and Portneuf Medical Center to help families who are going through tremendous loss. We are providing Care Packages to parents who have lost a child through stillbirth or complications. There has been so much loss recently and to provide a bit of comfort to some who are going through one the worst times of their life is so important. I cannot wait to share with you more about this mission that is a driving force behind why I do what I do. (Note: Carolyn will be sharing more with us during the Zoom Chat Gathering on January 7th - see Page 5 for details)



Endowment Fund Update

Did you know the Utah-Idaho District has an Endowment Fund?

The Utah-Idaho Executive Committee voted to invest contributions of \$13,151.78 to the District's Heritage of Love Endowment Fund with the LCMS Foundation where it will continue to grow. When the Fund reaches \$50,000, the interest will be used to support scholarships for women attending LWML events; support leadership development through LWML; and support other areas approved by the Utah-Idaho District Executive Committee. Please keep this Fund in mind when you want to remember a loved one with a lasting gift.

Trusting the Everlasting Rock

by Nancy Almodovarr

2020 started like any other year with people looking forward with hope and, quite frankly, intending to do those resolutions. That didn't last. Many grew anxious and fearful, with me among them, and then I tested positive for COVID19 before Christmas.

This meant trusting God even more. Right before this I was beginning to take inventory of opportunities this year: reconnecting with my sister, who is now looking into Lutheranism;

teaching on apologetics via zoom. Perhaps we learn to trust the Lord looking back and seeing opportunities He opened up, while we remained closed, to further the Kingdom of God through our hands, feet, voice, lips and our silver and gold (as our LWML Pledge says).

While it was not the way I wanted to spend the Holidays, quarantined, I am learning to trust Him more. In Isaiah 26:4 we read: *Trust in the LORD forever, For the Lord GOD is an everlasting rock.* That's sure footing for us in 2021.



Yellowstone zone

by Nan Mueller

Happy New Year, ladies of the U&I District! Those of us in the Yellowstone Zone hope you all were able to celebrate our Lord's coming with peace and joy.

In that vein, Grace Lutheran in Pocatello aided the celebrating for some seniors of the SEICCA program during December. Gifts of warmth (clothing, etc) and food, collected by Grace's ladies, were passed along to the seniors (Thank you, Caryn) to make their season of joy happy and bright. Though they were unable to provide cookies and Christmas punch during Advent services (COVID limitations), all were still able to enjoy various productions, including a live nativity with real camels. January, without a monthly meeting, still looks to have activity for Grace's LWML in the form of collecting hats, scarves, and mittens for a chosen organization in need – a need which never seems to be completely contained.

Idaho Falls' Hope Lutheran ladies have been staying safe – by not having meetings. That doesn't mean they're being idle by any means. By utilizing the LWML Mite Challenge calendar and presenting a new grant recipient every month, the ladies are keeping LWML's mission goal in mind for themselves and the whole congregation. They also are reaching out with cards to those who may be ailing or struggling in another way during this time of COVID.





LWML UTAH-IDAHO DISTRICT
2020-2022 BIENNIUM
VIRTUAL EVENT
Thursday, January 7, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Fellowship from 6:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.
And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.
Hebrews 10:23-24*

AN EVENING OF ZOOM CHAT

Your LWML Utah-Idaho District officers invite you to join them for an evening of fellowship and prayer.

Bible Study with Terri Bentley

Introduction and chat with Rev. Alex Lissow

Special Guest: Carolyn Perez, Thrivent
Grief Packages for hospitals

Sign on early for visiting with your LWML Sisters!!

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84774508400?pwd=UEpJZUZNa3dHWDIXL3phUk9jOG8xZz09>

January 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| 3 Pray for a Thankful Heart – again | 4 Pray for those who are lost | 5 Pray for First Responders during this Pandemic | 6 Pray for leaders of our country | 7 Pray for leaders of our church | 8 Call a friend and pray Luther's morning prayer with them | 9 Pray for Mission Grant #2 – MOST Ministries Clean Water Filters |
| 10 Pray your worship will be blessed today | 11 Pray for kindness for you and someone who has not been kind lately | 12 Pray for your job and co-workers | 13 Pray for the LWML District Board | 14 Pray for school teachers | 15 Pray for shut-ins that they might find peace and comfort | 16 Pray for LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison |
| 17 Pray for Mission Grant #5 - Lutheran Braille Workers | 18 Pray for our LCMS missionaries | 19 Call a friend and pray Luther's evening prayer with them | 20 Pray for our President | 21 Read Psalm 103 and thank Him for His compassion and loving-kindness. | 22 Pray for our LWML District Counselor Rev. Garen Pay | 23 Read Psalm 50:15 and Pray when you are troubled. |
| 24 Pray the Lord's Prayer | 25 Pray that things make you smile or laugh | 26 Pray for Your spouse and your marriage | 27 Pray that you will know the Lord's will in all areas of your life | 28 Pray that you would always bring your burdens to Christ. | 29 Pray for Mission grant #6—Bethesda Lutheran Communities | 30 Pray for protection |
| 31 Pray for yourself to be a blessing to someone today | | | | | |  |

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:23-24).