



U & I Together

February 2021

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

February 4, 2021

District Virtual Event
(See page 6 for details)



February 15, 2021

Newsletter submission
deadline



Spring Events

March 6: Central Zone at
Immanuel Twin Falls
March 20: Western Zone at
Grace Caldwell

Quarterly Mite Report

By Kathy Carlson,
Financial Secretary

Central Zone - \$1831.16

Western Zone - \$2947.54

Utah Zone - \$567.76

Yellowstone Zone - \$328.36

Thank you to everyone for
your generous support of our
missions. **The total for the
Advent Mission gifts was
\$1591.94.**

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.



Hope for the Lonely

by Pastor Pay

I just did a funeral for a member who died seemingly alone, unable to be visited by his family or me. Is there hope for those in Christ who die with the beeps of machines in their ears instead of the hymns or prayers of their loved ones? Is there hope for those who die with no hand to hold? Is there hope for those who are stuck at home with no one to talk to but pets, walls, and screens?

THERE IS!

It is found in the One who died abandoned by friends, with nails in his hands, with taunts and laughter in his ears, and forsaken by the Father in heaven. Our Savior knows all about loneliness, but he is risen and has overcome it promising, "Lo, I am with you always to the very end of the age." And his Apostle reminds us: "Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ."

Let's cling to those promises. They are ours and we can trust them because our Lord and His Word are faithful.

God Bless,
Pastor Pay



A Letter from Lois

Dear Friends,

Our District's theme of Trust – Renew – Grow – Serve, with our loving Savior at the helm, is leading the way into this biennium. For several months, we have been focusing on TRUST and looking to Jesus, trusting in Him for the good that will come out of all the situations we have been facing.

Your LWML Board has also put their trust in Jesus while they continue to make plans for the Lexington Convention, June 24-27, 2021. Yes, it's full steam ahead! "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus!" During the Presidents Assembly meeting I attended January 21-22, I heard many positive comments about the convention. For example, the Rupp Arena



Convention Center will hold 23,000 people – plenty of room for physical distancing! All health guidelines will be followed for the safety of the convention attendees.

The early registration deadline has been moved from March 15 to April 15. The LWML Board is keeping an eye on the COVID-19 situation and will make an announcement on March 19 regarding moving forward with these plans or to hold a virtual convention. Please keep them and the Host Committee in your prayers; they are also putting their TRUST in the Lord, running the race and seeking His will.

Blessings and love,
Lois

Gifts from the Heart

By Cheryl Brunson, VP of Special Focus Ministries

Many organizations had collections of food for Thanksgiving and Christmas, but the need goes on in January. Especially this year there is a great deal of need in our communities. Food pantries can use any sort of food and non-food/personal hygiene items. Rescue centers or shelters can use hygiene items or winter clothes, scarves, gloves or socks.



There is also a list in the winter issue of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* of items for the Gifts from the Heart for the 2021 National Convention in Lexington. Here is a link to the list on the LWML's website:

www.lwml.org/2021-convention

If the event at the convention cannot be held due to COVID, all those items can be taken to local women's shelters for their use. They won't go to waste! Eyeglasses can be mailed to MOST Ministries if the convention cannot be held. That information will be sent out at a later date.

Call For Mission Grant Proposals

It is time to start the process of "Calls for District Mission Grant Proposals."

To see the Grant criteria, application form and proposal deadline please visit our website at **www.utahidahlwml.org** or email Jeannie Barrette at **wbarrette1@msn.com** if you have any questions.

Please keep the Grant Committee in your prayers as we start this process.



Church Worker Grant Available

The LWML Utah-Idaho District is offering grant money for anyone in our district accepting his/her first call to full-time church work in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod this year. The application deadline is May 31, 2021. Please contact Tonya Barber, District Vice President of Organizational Resources, at **tonyalwml@gmail.com** for more details or click **HERE** for the grant guidelines.

**Your Mites at Work:
Care of Souls \$5,000 -
DOXOLOGY—Lutheran Center for
Spiritual Care and Counsel**

The goal of the grant is to offer continuing-education programs that will benefit three essential categories of people involved in the life and work of a congregation: the pastor, the lay leadership, and the pastor's wife. The funds will provide scholarship assistance for congregations and pastors with the highest priority going to pastors from congregations in the Utah-Idaho District of the LWML.



Another Grant Paid

Because of your prayers & generosity of your mite giving we were able to pay Grant No. 4 - Trinity Lutheran Preschool, Eden Idaho for \$5,000.00. God is Good!!



District Treasurer Naomi Hopkins presents a \$5,000 grant check to Karla Saldivar, Coordinator of the Early Education Center, Eden Lutheran Church.



The yard outside the preschool (left) is where a nature-based area will be created to stimulate learning through play. This area will include a large "play-house" church that will help them learn about Jesus' love.

Food for Concordia Theological Seminary's Food and Clothing Co-op, Fort Wayne, Grant #1 was paid in full. The third and final payment of \$1,000 was sent out on January 4, 2021. Please see the web-site (www.utahidahlwml.org) for all information regarding the Mission Grants.

And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins [mites], which make a penny (Mark 12:42).



Kuna Mission has a New Name

As of January 3, 2021, the Friendship Kuna Mission received a new name approved by the LCMS – Kuna Lutheran Church, located in Kuna, Idaho. This church planting effort is led by **Pastor Tom Hausch**, who is the founding pastor of **Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church in Meridian, Idaho.**

The planting of a new Lutheran Church in Kuna is driven by the need to support the rapidly expanding population of this once rural farm town. The establishment of Kuna Lutheran Church is supported by and sponsored by Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church in Meridian. Worship is held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Kuna High School.

A mission grant application has been submitted to LWML for consideration by the Mission Grants Committee in the amount of \$100,000 for the purchase of land.



**Endowment Fund
Investment Has Begun!**

By Kathryn Norton, Endowment Fund Coordinator

LCMS Foundation Fund paperwork is signed and our *Heritage of Love Endowment Fund* investment of \$13,151.78 is secure in the hands of professional investors. The Endowment Fund Committee will continue to monitor the fund, follow its investment performance, and report to the Executive Committee annually in the winter meeting. For more information about this mission, go to More/Giving in the top right corner of our website.

God's Faithfulness Story

by Melody Rosenwinkel

A lot of you know my story but for those who do not, it is a story of God's protection, mercy and forgiveness. God allowed some hard and scary times which I would not trade for anything. I didn't know it at the time but He was there with me when I feared for my life and ate canned corn because I had nothing else to eat. In Psalm 94 we hear, *God wings are our refuge and His faithfulness is a shield.*

Through jail time and three marriages, God was molding me into His child full of mercy and grace. I thank Him every day for His protection and for calling me out of darkness into His light.

God is there for you, no matter what you may be going through, no matter what you have done. God is Good, God is Faithful, God is True, God is Trustworthy.

For you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9 NAS



God is at work in all of our lives and others could benefit and would enjoy hearing how He has been faithful to you. Please share your story by sending it to VP of Christian Life, Melody, melodylwml@silverstar.com. Your story will be published in the U & I Together and on social media. Let's lift others up with real life stories of God's goodness.

Greetings from LWML Central Zone!

by Vickie Schmidt,
Central Zone President

Greetings from LWML Central Zone! The women of the Central Zone are planning to gather together **Saturday, March 6, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Twin Falls** for our Spring Event.

The theme is "Be Strong in the Lord" based on Joshua 1:9 - *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*

The Bible Study will be led by Pastor Roger Sedlmayr. We are assured through the promise that wherever we go God is there with us and that He will give us the strength and courage to face whatever comes before us. We will have Director Linda Staub from the Adult & Teen Challenge (formerly Jubilee House) come share with us about how through the strength and grace of God those who are struggling with addictions can have the hope of recovery and the strength to succeed.

We will be collecting household items and personal care items for the Adult & Teen Challenge facility in Twin Falls. We will not be having a meal together at this event, but snacks and beverages will be provided. We will be meeting in the sanctuary where it has been arranged for social distancing and so that we can also make the event available via an online livestream for those who want to participate from home. The use of masks will be optional at this time. We pray that the women participating will leave encouraged in the promise that we are "Strong in the Lord" wherever we go and whatever we do.

Mission Grant Thank You Notes: Orphan Grain Train

"Thank you very much for your generous contribution of \$950.75. Your partnership with us is a testimony to how God blesses His people to share, sometimes from their abundance and sometimes sacrificially, with those whose lives have been devastated by disaster or poverty ... The need, as always, is endless so we are pleased to have faithful donors like you, willing to assist in bringing not only relief supplies, but also the love of Jesus, to those who are in need!"

Rev. Ray S. Wilke, President; Orphan Grain Train

(Note: The \$950.75 gift was half of the 2020 District Convention offering.)



Grants Funded 2020-2022 Biennium

Grant	Amount	Funded
Food for Concordia Theological Seminary's Food and Clothing Co-op	\$5000	\$2000 September 2020 \$2000 November 2020 \$1000 January 2021
MOST Ministries - Clean Water Filters	\$3000	Pending due to COVID-19
(Tie) Immanuel Lutheran School Scholarships for Students and Trinity Lutheran Preschool	\$5000 \$5000	\$5000 September 2020 \$5000 January 2021
Bringing Light to Those Living in Darkness - Lutheran Braille Workers	\$2000	\$2000 January 2021
Equipping People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to Share the Gospel - Bethesda	\$4000	
Care of Souls - DOXOLOGY	\$5000	
Bahamas Mission Trip (unused Church Worker Grant) (2018 District Convention Surplus)	\$750 \$1000 \$460.50	
Missionary Support: Rev. James and Deaconess Christel Neuendorf (unused Church Worker Grant) (2018 District Convention Surplus)	\$750 \$1000 \$460.49	
Approved Mission Grants Budget	\$30,500	
Unused Church Worker Grant for 2018-2020 Biennium	\$2000	
2018 District Convention Surplus Redirected for Mission Grants	\$920.99	
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING AMOUNT	\$33,420.99	

New!

LWML MISSION STATEMENT UNVEILED:

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

National Mite Goal

By Naomi Hopkins, District Treasurer

The National LWML Mite Goal for the 2019-2021 Biennium is \$2,100,000. As of December 31, 2020, the amount received is \$1,955,388.73 with \$144,611.27 remaining to meet this Goal.

Because of the COVID-19 virus restrictions, groups have not met or held any fundraising events.

To help meet the National Mite Goal, I am asking that all ladies give their Mites to their Group Treasurer so that she can send it in to Kathy Carlson by March 15, 2021.

We are so close to meeting our LWML National Mites Goal! Thank you for your prayers and financial support for the LWML's mission grants. I pray you are all doing your best to stay healthy as we pray for our country and leaders.

Running to Lexington



Now is the time to make plans to attend the 39th Biennial LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, June 24-27, 2021! Join your LWML sisters who are "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus," the convention theme based on Hebrews 12:1-2. Attendees will be inspired by the convention goal, "Looking to Jesus, we run the race set before us and proclaim the joy of the Lord."

LWML Gifts of Love

"The LWML Gifts of Love Ministry continues to be a blessing as our Gifts of Love counselors reach out and help people develop a charitable gift plan to support ministries and organizations they are passionate about. Their goal is to help you share your faith, bless your family, and impact ministry. Thank you for partnering with us in spreading the gospel message."

Debbie Larson, LWML President
Karla Koehler, Chair, Planned Giving Committee

(Note: \$500 was sent to LWML to support the Gifts of Love Ministry during the 2020 Help-Love-Grow initiative. This amount was included in this biennium's budget and was sent in during the time matching funds were available.)

Mission Grant Thank You Notes: Concordia Theological Seminary Food/Clothing Co-op

The final gift of \$1,000 has been sent to Concordia Ft. Wayne and this grant of \$5,000 is now paid in full. "Thank you for your recent contribution. Your direct support to our Co-op helps us prepare pastors, deaconesses, and missionaries who will proclaim the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ in all the world."

Rev. Dr. Gary W. Zieroth
Dean of Students



LWML UTAH-IDAHO DISTRICT
2020-2022 BIENNIUM

VIRTUAL EVENT

Thursday, February 4, 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 YWR Heidi Ross and Paige Swanson

Introduction and chat with Rev. Tom Hausch
Kuna Lutheran Church

Faithful Stories with Jeannie Barrette

Craft with Alecia Rasmussen

Craft Supplies: see template at <https://outuponthewaters.com/sunday-school-valentines-lesson-1-corinthians-13/> or cut out the hearts your own cut outs of a large heart and 11 smaller hearts, string or yarn OR tape or stapler, colored pencils/markers (optional)

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84774508400?pwd=UEpJZUZNa3dHWDlXl3phUk9jOG8xZz09>

We look forward to seeing you on zoom! For questions or assistance with zoom link please contact Caryn at (208)221-3243 or lwml.carynellott@gmail.com. Yes, even on the evening of the event.

