



U & I Together

January 2023



Jan. 5, 2023
Thursday Evening Zoom Chat



Jan. 15, 2023
Newsletter deadline



Mar. 4, 2023
Central Zone Event
Immanuel, Twin Falls



Apr. 15, 2023
Utah Zone Event
St. Paul, Ogden



Apr. 22, 2023
Western Zone Event
Christ, Meridian



Apr. 29, 2023
Yellowstone Zone Event
Hope, Idaho Falls

LWML Mission Statement

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

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.

Christ Dispels the Darkness

Cindy Wilson

As of this writing we are still in the Christmas season. It is difficult to reflect on darkness when we are surrounded by beautiful lights all around us. "Why should we reflect on darkness?" you may ask. All the artificial lights will go away after the "season" ends, and when those lights are taken down, there will seem to be darkness where they have been.

John tells us in John 1:5 "*The light shines in darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*" This isn't any artificial light that gets put away when the season ends. John, of course, is referring to Christ, our Lord. In the prior verse, John writes "*In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.*" It is a comfort to know that when we have darkness in our lives, Christ is in the midst of any darkness giving bright and true light to our lives. This light cannot be packed away. No replacement bulbs are needed. Christ's light is everlasting to everlasting.

Recently I went to the Dollar Store (sorry, the \$1.25 store) to get wrapping tape. I noticed a boom box on a top shelf playing Christmas music. As I continued my shopping, a lady walked behind me singing quietly, but loud enough I could hear, "Christ, the Lord." She was singing in the store to "O Come All Ye Faithful" on the boom box. I smiled to myself. She was not afraid of saying the name of our Lord in a public place. (The store wasn't afraid to play Christian music!)

Suddenly I remembered one of the crosses I carry in my purse to give to people. (One of the men in our church carves thousands of wooden crosses as a ministry and they can be taken by anyone to be given away.) I found her in the next aisle and said "I heard you singing about Jesus and wanted you to have this." She looked at the cross in her hand with tears in her eyes and said "You have just made my day. This is a hard time of year for me. Some of my family members are gone, and the others just don't care. This makes me feel Jesus knows." ...

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Following the Guiding Light

Our trip to Israel last month was a spiritual whirlwind of places and information far beyond anything I imagined before our arrival. I knew we would have spiritual guidance from author Donna Snow but the tour guide, Ori, was more than a wealth of historical, traditional, and biblical insights. Ori means "my light" in Hebrew and he indeed was a light to us Gentiles. He enlightened us about the ministry of Christ in a blessed way in his homeland, reminding me of Simeon's proclamation when he saw the Christchild.

*that you have prepared
in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel*
(Luke 2:32-33).

Being able to see the places like Caesarea Philippi where Jesus asked Peter "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." (Mark 8:29) or standing next to the ruins of Peter's home in Capernaum where Jesus spent time in the nearby synagogue, or reading Jesus's words of the beatitudes while looking out over the Sea of Galilee from the Mount of Beatitudes itself blessed this American pilgrimage beyond measure. It was also a pleasure to have two other Utah-Idaho LWML gals on the tour, Nichelle Dykema and Linda Larson.



Many art depictions of light radiated from places like the Mount of Transfiguration where light emitted from within Jesus and Moses, not from an outside source shining down on them. More reminders that Jesus is our light and salvation even if we live in a dark world.

As we step into the New Year and this season of Epiphany where the Magi followed the light to find the Christ-child, let us also remember to be guided by the light of Jesus. He told us "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12).

Soon (January 9), you will be able to register for the convention in Milwaukie online. If you need help with technology, reach out to a church buddy or someone on the LWML board to help you. All the information to guide you through registration for "Celebrating the Lord of the Nations" June 22-25, 2023, is in the Winter Quarterly or lwml.org.

Living in the Light,
Terri Bentley, President

Look Forward to More 2023

Every month you see the convention flyer "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations" in our newsletter.

That June 22-25, 2023, date will sneak up on us before we know it. Do you know what going to a national LWML convention is really like?

Led in worship and Bible study, it is a time to celebrate with LWML sisters from all over our faith in Christ. This year Kaye Wolff, former VP of Special Focus Ministries, will guide us in Bible Study. Enthusiastic song leader, Dr. Dina Vendetti will return to lift us up along with many LWML mission speakers. It is always so wonderful to see how our mites are working all over the world.



Convention is not only a time to sit, listen, and reflect. There will be vendors and booths to visit and a Family Fest night with interactive games. Saturday night entertainment is supplied by the Lutheran Ladies Lounge crew from KFYO radio. If you have not heard of them, tune in and give them a listen, either on the radio or from their podcasts. The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge from KFYO Radio on Apple Podcasts.

All the details about registration, housing, meals, and other details are spelled out in the center of your Winter *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. All registration is online this year and begins January 9. See you in Milwaukie!



**Mites in Action: Grant No. 6
Worker Wellness for Chaplain Families
LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, St. Louis, Missouri
Amount \$3,000**

Jeannie Barrette, VP of Gospel Outreach

Ministry to the Armed Forces holds two Chaplain training seminars each year. The goal of this grant would be used to cover travel expenses for spouses to attend the seminar. These seminars help teach them how to care for themselves and their families while they care for the military families they serve.



Equipping to Proclaim

The Assembly of Leaders team will be providing LWML training in each zone to help each woman become equipped to proclaim in her area.

Proclaim Series Breakout Sessions

1. **Joining Church Workers in Their Journey** - Pastor Triplett & Madison Elliott
2. **Treasure Hunt for LWML Resources** - Terri Bentley & Mary Smith (Western only)
3. **Mission Adventure - Sharing God's Love & What's Your Why** - Kim Mein
4. **Venturing Out of Your Comfort Zone** - Shelby Von Busch



Plus Prayer Walk for Mission Grants



Gifts of Love

Lois Anderson

Happy New Year!

A new year gives fresh opportunity to respond to all of God's gifts, applying them to every circumstance and relationship in the hope of sharing Jesus. All of life is about using God's gifts for doing God's things. That is true for our estate plans as well.

Our estates are full of God's gifts. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you consider this perspective.

Contact

Linda Gage, LWML
Gift Planning Counselor
Email: Linda.Gage@lfnd.org
Phone: 800-741-4138
lwmlgiftplan.org

Or

Lois Anderson, LWML Utah-Idaho
Gifts of Love Advocate
Email: loisandersonlwml@gmail.com
Phone: 208-954-3534

Yellowstone Zone Update

Nan Mueller, Yellowstone Zone President

Greetings Utah-Idaho District from the ladies of Yellowstone Zone. We hope all of you celebrated a blessed Christmas and a wonderful Happy New Year.

Our ladies have been busy this year with fundraising at Idaho Falls Hope with their annual craft and yummy foods fair. Grace Pocatello gift wrapping party benefited 12 community seniors and rounded out the elementary school collection of hats and such, with a total of 115 hats, 42 gloves/mittens, 3 scarves, 7 pairs of socks, and a child's winter coat. Many thanks to all who aided in the work God has placed in our care as His hands and feet.



Utah Zone Update

Cheryl Brunson, Utah Zone President

The Utah Zone Spring Event will be held April 15, 2023, at St. Paul, Ogden. The program will be presented by district officers, "Equipping to Proclaim." We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Hope Lutheran Idaho Falls

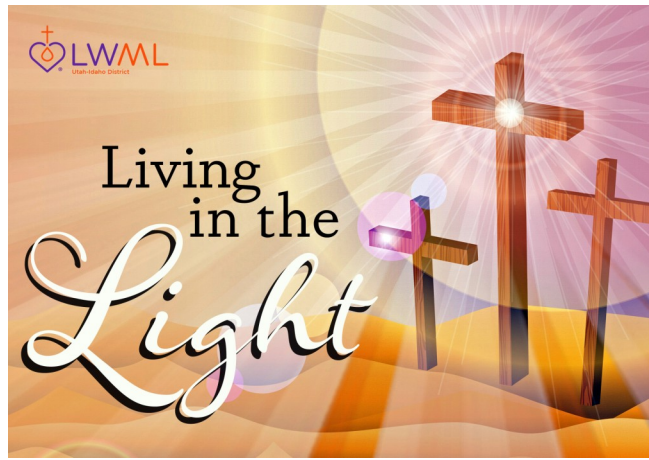
Hope Lutheran in Idaho Falls held its annual Holiday Fair in November. Tables were rented to crafters (many of whom who come back every year) and the money from table rent and sale of Hope's baked goods was divided among the three recipients selected by the congregation: LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, Christ's Care for Children in Kenya, and Florida and South Carolina Hurricane Disaster Relief through LCMS Disaster Response. There was much fellowship in the kitchen and at the bake sale with our ladies and a couple men helping out.

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I assured her of God's love and grace and we stood for some time talking openly about our Savior. She thanked me and hugged me. I told her I needed her hug just as much. God showed me not only His light at this moment for both this lady and myself, but also the reason we need to openly discuss darkness. So much darkness exists in our world. The strangers you see in stores, on the street, in restaurants, and at school, all have some darkness in their lives. The world's artificial lights have done nothing to pierce that darkness.

As saved believers in Christ, Jesus first shown His marvelous light into our hearts. It is our privilege and responsibility to show others that same light. Just like Jesus sent me to the store for tape (I thought it was my idea, my timing! Hah!), He will send you on mini missions as well. They might even turn into mega missions. Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

2023 is a New Year and there are mini good works and mega good works awaiting for us to do. Let one of those works be dispelling darkness for others as Christ dispelled the darkness in us.



*For God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6*

**LWML UTAH-IDAHO DISTRICT
2022-2024 BIENNIUM
QUARTERLY VIRTUAL EVENTS**

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

**Introduction and chat with a District
Church Worker**

LWML Updates from President Terri

*Watch for details in the U&I Together
and the Utah-Idaho District emails*

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84774508400>

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.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
40th Biennial Convention
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



Celebrate the
Lord of the Nations

Psalm 33:12-13



June 22-25, 2023

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Invites you to the

40th Biennial Convention

June 22-25, 2023

Wisconsin Center — Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Celebrate the Lord of the Nations

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man (Psalm 33:12-13).

Convention Goal

As His children, we celebrate the Lord of the nations.

Convention Objectives

Convention attendees, understanding that we are all His children, will:

- Celebrate our Lord through Word and Sacrament.
- Honor God by serving our neighbors.
- Proclaim His message to the nations.

Convention Logo Explanation

The 2023 LWML Convention logo features a wooden cross, reminding us of the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus who takes away the sin of the world. Wrapped around and draped over the cross is a long banner with the flags of many countries. The cross supports the banner as Christ delivers life and salvation to all the children of man. The banner waves symbolizing our life by the Holy Spirit and the movement and proclamation of the Word of God into all nations.



January 2023

Mite Challenge Calendar



MY CUP OVERFLOWS: *You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows (Psalm 23:5).*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Thank the Lord for another year. Donate 23¢	2 Walk extra steps today. Donate 95¢	3 Read Matthew 11:28-29. Donate 50¢	4 Pray for the Braille ministry. Donate 25¢	5 Watch for birds of the air and praise the Lord for them. Donate 10¢	6 It's Epiphany. Jesus came to save us. Share that News! Donate 90¢	7 Recite Psalm 23. Donate 70¢
8 Call and visit with a shut-in today. Donate 75¢	9 Pray for law enforcement officers. Donate 60¢	10 Sing "The Lord's My Shepherd" LSB 710. Donate 95¢	11 Share how your "cup overflows" with a friend. Donate 65¢	12 Buy a cup of tea or coffee for someone. Donate 35¢	13 Pray for the LWML mission grants. Donate 45¢	14 Thank the Lord for the vocation to which you are called. Donate 10¢
15 Find a hat to donate. Donate 40¢	16 <i>Be still and know that I am God</i> (Psalm 46:1-10). Donate 90¢	17 Donate to a food pantry. Donate 30¢	18 Recite The Lord's Prayer. Donate 50¢	19 Enjoy some popcorn today. Donate 45¢	20 Read through the <i>Lutheran Woman's Quarterly</i> . Donate 80¢	21 Give extra hugs today. Donate 35¢
22 Pray for your pastor, his wife, and family. Donate 10¢	23 Handwrite and mail a "thinking of you" card. Donate 45¢	24 Compliment those you see doing a good job. Donate 30¢	25 Read Ephesians 1:3. Donate 75¢	26 Praise the Lord for your spouse or dear friends. Donate 80¢	27 Share a piece of chocolate cake. Donate 50¢	28 Donate to a quilting group. Donate 20¢
29 Lift up the young women of LWML in prayer. Donate 50¢	30 Praise the Lord for winter precipitation. Donate 60¢	31 Pray over your District Mission Grants. Donate 35¢				