



U & I Together

September 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sept. 12, 2023

September to Remember

Sept. 15, 2023

Newsletter deadline

Sept. 16, 2023

Utah Zone Event
Holy Trinity, Logan

Sept. 30, 2023

Yellowstone Zone Event
Grace, Pocatello

Western Zone Event
Good Shepherd, Boise

Oct. 1, 2023

Central Zone Event
Trinity, Eden

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.

www.utahidaholwml.org

Blinded by the Light

Cindy Wilson, VP Christian Life

I pulled the sun visor down in front of me as I got into my car. What a day to forget my sunglasses. The sun was glaringly bright and I was driving straight into it. I felt blinded and had to squint as I drove. Sun and light were normally good things, but today the sun was annoying. Could there really be a thing as "too much light"?

I thought about the theme verse "*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)

For months now the Utah-Idaho Lutheran Women in Mission has been building devotions, Bible Studies, retreats and more around this theme. We were out and about shining our light and pointing to Jesus as God's light. It was certainly easy to let our light shine around other Christian women who were like-minded and knew Jesus as their Lord, their light, and their salvation.

But one day, as I was purposely trying to shine God's light onto a close family member with a different belief system, we talked about belief in "a god" versus faith in **God**. This led to the topic of gays and accepting them as normal couples. She felt her lenient god didn't have a problem so she shouldn't either. This contrasts with our God, who can forgive all sin and loves all people, but He does not overlook sin.

I felt like Saul on the road to Damascus when the light from heaven blinded him. Was I being blinded by having to prove her "god" wrong and my God right? God doesn't need my help for that. I could have spoken about God's love for gay and straight people alike, and His hatred for sin-no matter who it is that sins. I could have spoken that **His love for all people is so big that He sacrificed His own Son, Jesus, to cover all sin with His blood on the cross.**

As 2 Corinthians 4:6 says above, God put the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ Jesus in me. I wouldn't have it, I wouldn't know we are here to glorify God, I wouldn't know about God if others hadn't told me about God, taken me to church, baptized me, and fed me God's Holy Word.

Knowing this, it is my privilege and continued responsibility to pray for my family members and others so they will seek the one True God. Only the True God can shine the right light into each individual life. It might not be a blinding, glaring light but it will have just the right Intensity-that of the Love of God, our Father.



Shining Our Light Everywhere

As the school year begins, many are filling their calendars with fall clubs, sports, classes, and refocusing on goals. The 2023 LWML Convention in Milwaukee also has given us new missions and officers to support as we head into Fall. One way to support the 31 new Mission Grants is to participate in the **"September to Remember"** event September 12. Honor someone who has made a difference in your faith life through prayer and funds. The money gathered during this event also has been blessed with a \$10,000 matching gift which means you have the opportunity to double the impact of your giving.



If the Lord is tugging at your heart to go into the mission field yourself, MOST Ministries has a number of scholarships for LWML women. Contact most@mostministries.org or visit their website for more details about these opportunities.

- LWML Friends: Funds for 40 women - 20 LWML former MOST team members & 20 friends who have never served with MOST
- Ends of Earth: Funds for individuals serving in Africa, Asia or South America
- LWML OK: Funds for a limited number of applicants who are serving on their first MOST team; preference given to Oklahoma LWML District
- Teachers to the World: Funds for Lutheran teachers, Sunday school teachers & preschool teachers when joining a VBS or Children's ministry team
- Send Me, Send Me: Funds for LWML Young Women Representatives (YWR) to serve on a MOST team

Along with new mission opportunities, we also have new national officers in leadership positions to guide us. Shortly after the LWML convention, the Missouri Synod held their convention in Milwaukee. Newly elected President Eden Keefe represented the LWML there and this interview with her was posted. Listen and you can learn more about our new leader.

[President Eden Keefe Interview at LCMS Convention — Lutheran Women's Missionary League \(lwml.org\)](#)

This coming biennium, the national LWML is focusing on Jesus more than ever. They have created a series of powerpoint presentations for each of these areas. Each is about five minutes long on Youtube (<https://www.lwml.org/focus-on-jesus>). Use them to introduce LWML to others and to refocus your groups.

- Facts — Who We Are
- Our Preparation for Service — How We Equip
- Christ-Centered — Why We Go
- Unified Message — We Proclaim Christ Near and Far
- Serving Others — How We Help

Living in the Light,
Terri Bentley, President

Convention Delegate Update

Tina Bentley – Western Zone

As I reflect on the 2023 LWML National Convention, I feel blessed to have been the Western Zone delegate. Being with so many women who love the Lord was amazing. The LWML convention is so much about community. At convention I was able to reconnect with a few ladies who I was a YWR with in 2009 at the Portland Convention. I chatted with ladies I met through my seven years as a Lutheran called church worker. I was able to catch up with friends from Concordia Seward. I met so many new ladies, some even from our own district. But the best thing about the convention, for me, was seeing all the ladies from around the country love on my niece Kalli. She was the star of the convention, if you ask me. Everywhere we went people were asking, "Are you the girl on the cover of the magazine?" "Can I take your picture?" Or my favorite, "You're famous!" to which Kalli would reply, "I know!" Seeing her in her element surrounded by so many encouraging women, and a few men, was the highlight. I loved hearing the speakers and listening to how our mites are doing mighty things around the globe, but seeing the love of Jesus pour out on Kalli through LWML ladies is something that was incredibly special.

Toni Champlin, Trinity Eden – Central Zone

Thank you for the opportunity to be one of the delegates for the convention. It was a sheer pleasure and uplifting experience!!

The Convention opened with a stimulating worship service and Holy Communion celebrating 'The Lord of the Nations'! It's difficult to explain the sensation when singing praises to our Lord with nearly 4000 other LWMLers, except to say that I had goosebumps. Wow, what a thrill! This all gave me an abundance of enthusiasm for the business side of the convention; voting for the mission grants and officers. We accepted a new Mission Goal of over 2.4 million dollars for the next biennium for 31 mission projects. One of the highlights was listening to several missionaries/mission leaders that LWML supports; and learning about their experiences and how God is so very active in the process. Our Gracious God is in ALL the details....Alleluia! There were several offices on the ballot that we voted for. For President, only 4 votes separated the candidates. Can you believe that?! Obviously, they were both very good candidates. Eden Keefe from Kansas, is our new president.

I'm so very grateful to have shared this experience with so many other women from Utah & Idaho; to get to know one another better and make memories together. To God be the glory!



YWR Convention Update

Grace Stults, Grace Lutheran Pocatello

Attending the LWML National Convention was a wonderful gift! Thank you to all who made this trip possible for me. I would not have been able to go without your prayer and support! When asked to share highlights from the convention, I immediately thought of the exhibit hall where many different Lutheran missions had booths to share and update on their work in the U.S. and around the world. This was incredibly encouraging to me as I got to be reminded and made aware of all the different missions and work that the Lutheran church does do to be active in the lives of others. It was so cool to see the many different ways in which God is working—from helping believers in India to working to supply braille Lutheran writings to those who need it, and to see how the LWML is such a helpful support in them! I also greatly appreciated the community created by the YWR leaders. They welcomed us young woman representatives, helped us connect with one another, and provided a platform for us to be encouraged as a body of believers.

I'm grateful for this trip and the greater insight and respect I gained for LWML; who they are, and what they do. Again, thank you for providing me with this experience to learn more about this large, Lutheran organization that is able to help so many people. To God be the glory!

DO YOU WONDER ... ?

Lois Anderson, U-I District Nominating Committee

... how you can use your talents to serve in God’s Kingdom? He is opening doors for you through the LWML and the Utah-Idaho District. The District Board is seeking willing and talented women to submit their names for various offices. Look over the duties and match one with your talents or with those of someone you know. These documents may also be found on the website at utahidaholwml.org/2024-ut-id-district-convention. You are invited to ask questions of the outgoing officers listed below and to hear their story of how they used their gifts to the glory of God.

VP of Gospel Outreach

Jeannie Barrette – wbarrette1@msn.com

Secretary

Linda Maul – linda@eklp partners.com

VP of Organizational Resources

Tonya Barber – tonyalwml@gmail.com

Financial Secretary

Kathy Carlson – krcar69@yahoo.com

VP of Communication

Caryn Elliott – lwml.carynellott@gmail.com

To submit your name or to nominate a servant worker for one of these offices, complete the Nomination for Utah-Idaho District Office form found at utahidaholwml.org/uploads/9/8/1/7/9817262/nominating_form_fillable.pdf. Then send it to your Zone Representative listed below. She will make the contact and seek permission for her name to be on the ballot.

Central Zone

Nancy Brune – jnbrune4321@gmail.com

Western Zone

Karolyn Rippy – kakay5love@gmail.com

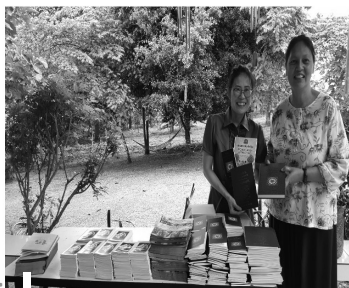
Utah Zone

Cheryl Brunson – chiggerb@msn.com

Yellowstone Zone

Betty Oloff – bcoloff@yahoo.com

Thank you for your prayerful time and diligent effort dedicated to this important task.



Praising God!!!—another Mission Grant Paid

Different Languages, Same Savior: Lutheran Books for Missionaries Around the World, Amount \$3,000

One example of how the Small Catechisms are being put to use in Thailand. The photos were taken at a Youth Rehab Addiction Center in Chiangrai, in northern Thailand. Some of the children pictured are the children of addicts; others, despite their young age, are addicts themselves. God’s Word has never been more needed by these young and hurting ones, who have never before heard of Jesus! In addition to the Small Catechism, clients of the Center also received Bible storybooks and other small gifts.



LWML Bumped into Me

During a recent Yellowstone Zone Event, one of our women made the statement *when I was in the mission field, LWML bumped into me.*

This statement was worth following up on so I asked Ruth to answer a few questions about her experiences.

When did you go into the mission field? I first went into the mission field in 1964.

Where did you go? I went to Papua New Guinea for three years.

What was your profession? I was a registered nurse with a degree from Valparaiso.

How did LWML bump into you? A lovely lady named Lavada wrote to me while I was in PNG and wanted to know what her ladies' guild could do to help me. We wrote back and forth for a couple of years. The pastor on my station along with local people built me a brand-new bush clinic with funds that were sent to me. Lavada's ladies made and sent about a dozen pairs of curtains for that clinic. She had gotten my name from the LCMS Mission Board in St Louis.

How did LWML serve God through you? I no longer had to deliver babies in a bush clinic, dirty, in the dark with a flash light. I also taught Sunday School to the children in my area; my supplies were sent by the ladies in Kirkwood and other groups.

Do you have one favorite memory of LWML serving through you? MANY!! After I came

home, the ladies of Kansas LWML invited me to do a speaking tour the following Spring (15 times in 13 days). I bumped into former classmates who then lived in Kansas. I met a pastor in Vassar, KS and married him a year and a half later. I left a beautiful little clinic in the jungle in PNG which other nurses used after I left. I was told other LWMLs in Kansas wrote to the nurses there and helped them.

My husband Don, daughter Nan, son Nik, and I went to Liberia as missionaries in the 80's. We received letters and support when we were there. My daughter Nan got some really nice grades when we returned as she wrote excellent reports at school about her experiences. Nan is an active member of LWML.

I know the more you give to the LORD, the more He blesses you!! You can't out-give HIM!!

Is there anything else you want to share with our Utah-Idaho LWML sisters?

I just know that the LORD took my life when I took the call to PNG and again and again, HE has blessed me more than I ever dreamed!!

My mother and her sisters were members of Ladies Aid/LWML at Concordia Kirkwood, Mo for as long as I could remember.

Nan told me that Ruth knew she wanted to be a missionary when she was 8 years old.

What a blessing Ruth was to so many others. To God be the Glory. Amen



Central Zone Update

Ramona Sailor, Central Zone President

The Central Zone LWML will be having its fall rally Oct. 1 at Trinity, Eden. The theme is "Let Us Focus on Jesus." On the agenda is a Bible study, a presentation by Idaho Angels, which collects items for assistance to needy people. Also reports from the our delegate to national, Camp Perkins and hopefully Terri our district President.

Western Zone Update

The Western Zone Officers met on Aug. 5 at Good Shepherd to plan the Fally Rally which will be held Sept. 30 at Good Shepherd in Boise. It will begin with registration at 9:00 with a light brunch. Lunch will be served. Pastor Dan will lead our Bible Study. The theme will be "The King is Coming!" Psalms 27: 7-10. Ingathering will be for the Pregnancy Center. They are

requesting small diapers or gift cards for Walmart for car seats, or cash.

Yellowstone Zone Update

Nan Mueller, Zone President

Yellowstone Zone is jumping into post-summer activities with both feet. We are looking to be involved in a multitude of areas: everything from Bible studies online and in person to service projects in the form of crafting to community outreach. Our Fall Zone Event will be held at Grace, Pocatello on Sept. 30, with a focus on giving — locally to internationally, because we all have gifts God has and is preparing for us to share, no matter the season of life we are in.

May blessings be in abundance, ladies, in all your activities and events as we give and share as God has done and continues to do for us.



LWML
Western Zone
Fall Rally

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
5009 W. Cassia St, Boise, ID

Registration 9-9:30 a.m.
\$5 suggested donation
Lunch will be provided

Bible Study Leader: Rev. Dan Jones,
Western Zone Pastoral Counselor

Ingathering to benefit: Treasure Valley Path (Pregnancy Care Center)
Newborn or Small Diapers, \$25 Walmart gift card,
\$50 or \$100 Walmart gift card for Car Seats

For additional information contact: Karolyn Rippy (208)454-0535

2023 LWML FALL EVENT

Sept 16, 2023

9:00 (registration &
refreshments)-**1pm**

At : Holy Trinity, Logan

581 N 700 E, Logan

Cost \$7

Light lunch provided

Questions? Text or call Cheryl

@ (435) 213-0454

Bible Study
Leader : Pastor Christ,
St Paul, Ogden

Ingathering for

Adams Elementary School

- **Expo (white board) markers**
- **24 packs of Crayola crayons**
- **Pencil top erasers**
- **Glue sticks**
- **Kleenex**
- **Clorox wipes**
- **Spiral notebook, 70 pages, wide-ruled**
- **Pencils**
- **Wide rule filler paper**

Presentation about Grace Sandy's work in Haiti and Bahamas; U&I upcoming convention

A zoom link will be sent Thursday and Friday before the meeting.

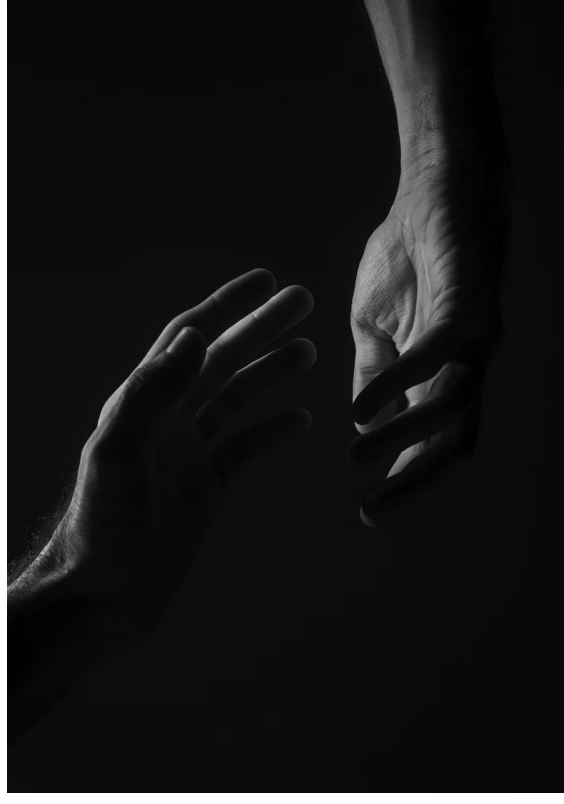
Lutheran Women in Mission
Yellowstone Zone Fall Event
September 30th, 2023

9AM to Noon

at Grace Lutheran, Pocatello

Registration and light breakfast at 8:45AM;

Lunch provided - \$5/person to offset costs



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:7 (NIV)



Join us for Bible study, fellowship,
sharing about National Convention in
Milwaukee, and a little behind the
scenes presentation of Operation
Christmas Child

Ingathering for Veterans Home in Pocatello:
Please see list for items needed



September 2023

Mite Challenge Calendar



KEEP MY TEACHING: *Keep my commandments and live; keep my teaching as the apple of your eye; bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart (Proverbs 7:2-3).*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Thank a teacher today. Donate 40¢	4 Labor Day. Pray for working people. Donate 70¢	5 Treat someone to a cheese pizza. Donate 15¢	6 Read a Bible story aloud. Donate 55¢	7 Sing LSB 422 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image." Donate 30¢	8 Choose a district mission grant and pray for it. Donate 95¢	9 Spend time with a close friend. Donate 50¢
10 Honor grandparents today. Donate 20¢	11 Pray for healing of those affected by 9/11. Donate 80¢	12 Read John 14:15 Donate 35¢	13 Put up some fall decorations. Donate 75¢	14 Write out John 13:34-35. Donate 60¢	15 Purchase some apples. Donate 25¢	16 Sing LSB 707 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways." Donate 65¢
17 Send an encouraging text to a friend. Donate 45¢	18 Pay it forward in the drive-through today. Donate 85¢	19 Recite aloud John 3:16. Donate 10¢	20 Buy a pair of socks and donate them. Donate 90¢	21 Read Matthew 5:1-19. Donate 40¢	22 Search for a new soup recipe. Donate 70¢	23 Read John 20:1-18. Donate 15¢
24 Invite a friend to lunch. Donate 55¢	25 Burn a candle with a fall scent. Donate 30¢	26 Enjoy pancakes for breakfast or supper. Donate 95¢	27 Pray for an LWML grant recipient. Donate 50¢	28 Take a walk and enjoy the beginning of fall. Donate 20¢	29 Buy someone a cup of coffee today. Donate 80¢	30 Look up and dwell on your favorite Scripture verse. Donate 30¢