

Pastor Kory's Page

Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD

October 3-4, 2015

LWML Weekend

We can't always assume that acronyms are widely understood, so let's ask the question: ***What is the LWML???*** LWML stands for Lutheran Women's Missionary League. It has been the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for over seventy-two years.

In this Pastor's Page, I'd like to share some information and updates from our LWML ladies at Faith.

What is the purpose of the LWML? To encourage and equip women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global mission work.

Did you know that we have two LWML groups at Faith? The Ladies Auxiliary meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. to share a light meal, Bible study, and short meeting. The Goodwill Ladies Aid meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at 2:00 p.m. for Bible study, fellowship, and a short meeting. Both groups invite the women of Faith to come and join!

What are Mite Boxes? These are the small lavender and white boxes which you can use to collect change for LWML mission projects. These small offerings can really add up to a lot! If you picked up a Mite Box on a previous weekend, you can place it in the large Mite Box near the end of today's worship service, but even if you do not have a Mite Box, you can still contribute toward the work of the LWML today, should you choose to do so. You can also take a Mite Box home and collect your change on an ongoing basis. Anyone can take a Mite Box: men, women, or children!

What sort of projects are supported by the LWML? Projects are voted on at the District and National levels of the LWML. The mission grant goal for 2015-2017 is two million dollars! These funds will be used to support nineteen different mission projects around the United States and the world. The projects were adopted by the LWML at the most recent national convention in Des

Moines, IA in June, 2015. God has blessed the work of the LWML through the offerings of thousands of LCMS members like you and the LWML has always been able to meet its funding goals. South Dakota also has its own funding goal for its own projects, separate from the national goal. Some of the current SD LWML projects include the Lutherans for Life television ads ("Life: A Better Choice"), Lutheran Braille Workers, funding for Black Hills Lutheran School, funding for classrooms at a Lutheran school in Liberia, providing the Lutheran Study Bible and other materials for Lutherans in Turkey, and more.

What specific projects do Faith's LWML groups support? In addition to giving toward District and National projects, the Goodwill Aid supports Sioux Falls Lutheran School and Lutheran High School, Main Street Living, Orphan Grain Train, Mission Central, and provides assistance to seminary student, Joel Heckmann. The Goodwill Aid also provides prayer books for our confirmands each Spring. Many of these projects are supported through your purchases of nuts and candies in their annual fall fundraiser. The Goodwill Aid also visits the homebound on their birthdays and takes May Baskets to the homebound.

The Ladies Auxiliary sponsors the Diaper Derby for the Alpha Center and the Clothesline for needy children at a local school. They have also gathered donations of other items for the Alpha Center, such as baby blankets and clothing. They also support Faith students as they prepare to become Lutheran teachers or pastors. The Ladies Auxiliary tries to have a different project every month.

When is the Soup and Pie Supper? Both groups are working to get ready for the Soup and Pie Supper that we will enjoy on Friday, November 6th. The ladies invite you to come and have some delicious soup and spend time in fellowship next month! All proceeds will support important mission projects.

What else does the LWML do? In addition to gathering at Faith, the ladies of the LWML also gather with other SD women for rallies and prayer events and also participate in national conventions, such as the June 2017 convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

On behalf of the women of the LWML, thank you for all you do to support them as they support and participate in our Lord's mission!