

LWML News

“LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING”

The heart of the Bible is the Good News Jesus spoke to Nicodemus, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16 NIV) The apostle John writes, “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.” (I John 4:8 NIV) In 1747 when Charles Wesley, brother of John Wesley and one of the founders of Methodism, wrote the hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling,” he emphasized God’s action: God loves us because it is his nature. Hearts, cards, and flowers appear in stores so we can celebrate St. Valentine’s Day, but God demonstrates his heart in Jesus’ passion—his death on the cross to pay for our sins, the third-day resurrection, and ascension to heaven. This is what Wesley inspires us to sing, that we receive God’s grace and ask for his presence in our life:

“Love, divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav’n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev’ry trembling heart.” (LSB 700)

We will again hold a daytime meeting at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, February 12th.

Ongoing First Lutheran LWML projects

Through our quilting group, we will provide four quilts for the Tom Roy Youth Guidance Home this spring, two for boys and two for girls. Congregational members continue to prepare a meal once a month and we regularly check in with the home to see what their needs and wants are.

Mission Projects (Mites)

The February Mission Grant is \$75,000.00 for a Restoration Program for Native Hawaiians through Lutheran Indian Ministries. Hawaii is an earthly paradise with a high cost of living, which means many of the Native Hawaiian (Kanaka) people cannot afford housing and are plagued by serious social problems. Most of the ministry work in Hawaii has been done among non-native people; this grant will enable Clarence DeLude III, a Native Hawaiian (Kanaka) to complete training leading to ordination and begin mission work among the Native Hawaiian Kanaka people, including Vacation Bible School, Teen Camp, Bible studies, seminars, training of facilitators and cultural arts programs, using a former church building on the island of Oahu.

Meeting Dates:

General Meeting: Tuesday, February 12th, at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Topic Leaders: Tuesday, February 19th, at 12:00 Noon in the Church Office

“Shh! Peace. Be Still.” Pages 18-19 Winter 2018 Quarterly

Altar Circle: Tuesday, February 26th, at 7:00 pm

Mary-Martha Circle: Tuesday, February 26th, at 7:00 pm

Youth & Cradle Circle: Wednesday, February 27th, at 1:00 pm

Please check the weekly bulletin for locations and any changes.

LWML offers all women of the congregation an opportunity for Bible study, service and fellowship.