

Lutheran Women's Missionary League
39th Biennial Convention Minutes
June 24-27, 2021
Rupp Arena
Lexington, Kentucky

The 39th biennial convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League was held at the Rupp Arena, Lexington, Kentucky, on June 24-27, 2021. The theme for the convention was "Running the Race....Looking to Jesus," based on Hebrews 12:1-2: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.* The convention was broadcast via Livestream for those unable to attend.

CONVENTION GOAL STATEMENT

Looking to Jesus, we run the race set before us and proclaim the joy of the Lord.

CONVENTION OBJECTIVES:

Each convention attendee will:

- Focus on Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament.
- Joyfully celebrate our salvation with song and prayers.
- Serve our neighbors through witness and mission.

PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Pre-convention activities began on Wednesday evening, June 23, 2021.

- Onsite registration occurred at the Central Bank Center.
- Servant Activities conducted at the convention center beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2021, included:
 - Assembled Braille Books of the Bible for Lutheran Braille Workers.
 - Created greeting cards of encouragement for cancer patients through Phil's Friends.
 - Assembled Blessing Bags full of goodies for Campus Ministries.
 - Assembled meal kits for children through Love the Hungry.
 - Assembled fleece blanket and pillows for the elderly through Graceworks Lutheran Services.
 - Assembled witness bracelets for MOST Ministries.
 - Packed school supplies for Orphan Grain Train.
 - Wrote messages in encouragement cards for Refuge for Women.
 - Blood Donation with American Red Cross.
- Bluegrass Meadows Exhibit Hall was open beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2021.
- Thursday morning seminars conducted at the convention center beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2021, included:
 - Archivist-Historian Seminar
 - District Gifts, Endowment Fund, and Gift Planning Seminar
 - Mission Grants Seminar
 - Structure/Bylaws Seminar
 - Website/Social Media Seminar
 - Writer's Workshop
- Gifts from the Heart donations gathered included:
 - Assurance Ministries, Lexington
 - 1,112 baby toiletries
 - 1239 bath towels, washcloths, and crib sheets
 - 883 burp cloths and bibs
 - 140 laundry hampers/baskets
 - 485 boxes of disposable diapers
 - 1320 packages of baby wipes
 - 63 diaper bags
 - 1187 toys, teethingers, and pacifiers
 - 480 blankets
 - 4,917 Arch Books

- 57 miscellaneous items
- \$2044.50 in monetary donations
- MOST Ministries
 - 6008 pairs of glasses
 - \$1727.50 in monetary donations
- Concordia Seminary St. Louis Food Bank and Concordia Theological Seminary Food & Clothing Co-op, Ft. Wayne.
 - Gift card total, \$38,065.73.
 - \$2187.50 in monetary donations for Ft. Wayne, Indiana
 - \$2632.50 in a monetary donation for St. Louis, Missouri
- Delegates to the convention met on Thursday afternoon, June 24, 2021, for delegate orientation from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- Following delegate orientation, district caucuses were held.

GRACE PLACE CHAPEL

A chapel dedication and prayer service were held on the patio of the Central Bank Center, Thursday, June 24, at 7:30 a.m. The chapel was open throughout the convention for quiet reflection and prayers.

Convention Opening and First Meeting Thursday, June 24, 2021 7 p.m.

OPENING OF THE CONVENTION

The president's daughter, Mandy Redfield, lit the candle as President Debbie Larson opened the convention in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

CELEBRATION SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

The celebration service began as Tim Larson, the president's son, carried the LWML processional cross, followed by the ecclesiastical procession of LCMS clergy participating in the service. The celebrant was the Rev. James Bettermann, and the proclaimer for the worship service was the Rev. Dr. David P. E. Maier. His theme was from the convention verse, Hebrews 12:1-2; *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

Rev. Dr. Maier reminded everyone to go beyond starting the race, striving to continue and finish the race, as well. When trials and tribulations stop our journey, we are called to continue to the finish line. Rev. Dr. Maier encouraged us to seek God's help to finish our race.

CONVENTION OFFERING # 1 2021-2023 LWML Mission Goal The offering totaled \$45,403.22 (final)

Second Meeting Friday, June 25, 2021 8:15 a.m.

CHILD CARE/YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Child care/youth activities at King's Kids Clubhouse began at 8 a.m. at the Rupp Arena - Lexington.

SONG LEADER

The song leader for the convention was Elinor Paulison, who led the convention body in singing before meetings and throughout the convention.

HUMOROUS INTERRUPTIONS

Throughout the convention, Humorous Interrupters Jan Struck and Abby Goehring provided a joyful interruption as generational attendees, Gertie and Marcy. They used their humor to show that women, young and old alike, can work together as Lutheran Women in Mission.

WAKE UP WITH THE WORD BIBLE STUDIES

The "Wake Up with the Word Bible Studies," held on Friday and Saturday mornings from 6:45-7:45 a.m., were open to all convention attendees.

OPENING OF SECOND CONVENTION MEETING

Char Kroemer, Vice President of Communication, occupied the Vice President's chair during the second meeting.

BANNER PROCESSION

The LWML logo banner was carried by President Debbie Larson, preceded by the Board of Directors' members. Banners of the LWML Host Districts were carried by the District Presidents, Marge Gruber, Indiana District; Vivian Nelson, Ohio District; MaryBeth Heikkinen, Michigan District. Banners from each district were carried by each LWML District President accompanied by her Young Woman Representatives.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

LWML District Presidents serving from 2018 – 2022, led the *Pledge of Allegiance* and singing of *America the Beautiful*:

Linda Guterres, Atlantic (absent)

Cheryl Wulfert, Carolinas

Susan Bell, Eastern

Gwen Marshall, Gulf States

Margaret Kistler, Iowa East

Sally Handrick, Missouri

Lisa Stirtz, Nebraska North

Becky Haltaufderheid, North Wisc.

Debbie Yocky, Rocky Mountain

Diane Grebing, S. Illinois

Marilee Ryan, WA-AK

Martha Dubke, California-Nevada-Hawaii

Teresa Tester, Chesapeake

Darlene Keca, English

Marge Gruber, Indiana

Jane Morris, Iowa West

Deb Vinkemeier, Minn South

Susan Harnos, New Jersey

Janice Gerzevske, N. Illinois

Millie Kwiatkowski, SELC

Lois Anderson, Utah-Idaho

Barbara Schaer, Wyoming

OPENING PRAYER

Shelley Moeller, LWML Convention Manager, led the opening prayer for the second meeting.

WELCOME

District Presidents Marge Gruber, Indiana District; Vivian Nelson, Ohio District; and MaryBeth Heikkinen, Michigan District welcomed everyone to Lexington, Kentucky.

President Larson recognized the host LCMS District Presidents and welcomed all other LCMS District Presidents in attendance. She also recognized LCMS President Emeritus Rev. Dr. Gerald Kieschnick.

BIBLE STUDY #1

Strategic Plan Facilitator Michelle Jenks introduced Deaconess Heidi Goehmann, who presented the Bible Study on the convention theme "Running the Race...Looking to Jesus." The Bible Study was presented in two sessions, "Running on Solid Ground" and "Running with Resilience." The Bible Study was based on the convention scripture; Hebrews 12:1-2.

INTRODUCTION OF CONVENTION SONG LEADER

Meeting Manager Arlene Naasz introduced Elinor Paulison, Convention Song Leader.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

VP of Communication Char Kroemer introduced the committee members of the Information Technology Committee: Chairman Kathy Pavelock, Elizabeth Gehle, Leslie Nordmeyer; Official Publication Committee/*Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*: Editor-in-Chief Sheila Lutz, Graphic Artist Amy Gill, News Editor Shari Miller, Bible Study Editor Sharon Rapp, Christian Living Editor Linda Guterres, Features Editor Becky Wehrspann, and Mission Editor Cheri Fish. Graphics Team members: Cheryl Rackov, and Nichelle Dykema. Two Pastoral Counselors who served as doctrinal review on these committees were Rev. Brian Noack and Rev. Kenton Wendorf.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

District Presidents were appointed to Minutes Review and Teller Committees.

Minutes Review:

President Lois Anderson, Chairman, Utah-Idaho District
 President Sherry Burger, Nebraska South District
 President Michelle Zollinger, Louisiana-Mississippi District

Tellers:

President Barbara Schaer, Chairman, Wyoming District
 President Pam Kercher, Montana District
 President MaryBeth Heikkinen, Michigan District

ELECTRONIC BALLOTING REVIEW

Parliamentarian Barbara Volk led a review of the use of wireless voting devices.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett gave the Credentials report.

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors	11
District Presidents	37
Past LWML Presidents	7
Committee Chairman	12
Delegates	<u>449</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	516

NON-VOTING

LWML Appointed Personnel and Committee Members	59
Other Registrants	<u>2212</u>
Total Non-Voting	2271

Total Registration **2787**

As of 9:47 a.m. on June 25, 2021, the credentials report was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 481 to 1.

READING OF THE PROPOSED CONVENTION RULES

The convention rules, presented by Parliamentarian Barbara Volk, were **ADOPTED** by a vote of 483 to 7.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED AGENDA

The proposed agenda was presented by Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett, as printed in the convention manual with necessary changes to be made at the discretion of the chair was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 490 to 2.

AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Mary Smith, Structure Committee Chairman, presented the proposed amendments (Addendum 1) to the LWML Bylaws and **MOVED**, their adoption by direction of the Presidents Assembly. She led the convention body in prayer before the vote. Chairman Smith presented the following proposed amendments:

Article IV, section 2c, Convention and Representation.
 Article VIII, section 1g and 2b, Appointed Officers.
 Article X, section 2a and 3, Board of Directors.
 Article XI, sections 2d and 4, Presidents Assembly.
 Article XIV, sections 1 and 2, Special Committees.
 Article XVII, sections 1a, 1d, 1d (1) (2), 2a, Mission Grants.
 Article XVIII, section 1, Resolutions.
 All amendments were **ADOPTED** by a vote of 464 to 4.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett gave the Credentials report.

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors	11
District Presidents	37
District Designated Alternate	2
Past LWML Presidents	7
Committee Chairman	12
Delegates	<u>449</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	518

NON-VOTING

LWML Appointed Personnel and Committee Members	59
Other Registrants	<u>2210</u>
Total Non-Voting	2269
Total Registration	2787

As of 10:18 a.m. on June 25, 2021, the credentials report was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 494 to 4.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer Karla Koehler reported the 2019-2021 mission goal of \$2,100,000 was surpassed before the close of the biennium.

THE MISSION GOAL FOR THE 2021–2023 BIENNIUM

Treasurer Karla Koehler reported that electronic voting took place on May 23-29; 560 invitations to vote were sent out to delegates with a 98% return. Of the 549 ballots recorded, 525 voted yes and five voted no; 19 returned not answered. ***A Mission Goal of \$2,150,000 was adopted for the 2021-2023 biennium.***

The Board of Directors and Presidents Assembly has approved that 90% of the Mission Goal will go directly to mission grants.

FINANCIAL REPORT

LWML Business Manager Vanessa Johnson presented and reviewed the final financial report for the 2019-2021 biennium that was audited by Anders CPAs + Advisors of St. Louis, MO. Business Manager Johnson reported that the audit was deemed a clean opinion audit report. This means that the LWML financial records are free from material misstatement and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The LWML has ended the 2019-2021 biennium with a \$3,100,000 surplus. This will allow the LWML to fund more mission grants in excess of our total Mission Goal.

\$2,150,000 Mission Goal

\$1,935,000 for Mission Grants (90% of the mission goal)

\$286,176.15 Overage from the 2019-2021 biennium

\$2,221,176.15 by God's grace will fund mission grants for the 2021-2023 biennium.

INTRODUCTION OF OFFICE STAFF

LWML Business Manager Vanessa Johnson introduced the staff of the LWML Office who could not be in attendance at this convention: Karen Andersen, Eva Koeller, and Jayne Klein. Convention Registrar Carol Iannelli and her family were recognized for their 20 years of service in helping with the convention registration process. Carol Iannelli will step down from the position of Convention Registrar after this convention.

INTRODUCTION OF PAST LWML DISTRICT PRESIDENTS 2016-2020

A special acknowledgment was given to the past LWML district presidents who could not meet at their conventions due to the pandemic.

Sheila Lutz, Central Illinois
Brenda Piester, Kansas
Susan Gruber, Michigan
Marilyn Hiltel, Minnesota North

Trish Aamoth, Florida-Georgia
Anita Granger, Louisiana-Mississippi (LA-MS)
Diane Reimold, Mid-South
Shari Miller, Montana

Katy Gifford, Nebraska South
Valerie Biberdorf, North Dakota
Dianna Just, Oklahoma
Bonnie Karch, Pacific Southwest
Lisa Asmus, South Dakota
Debbie Curry, Texas

Barbara Lis, New England
Jeanne Schimmelmänn, Ohio
Carmen Nagel, Oregon
Milly Kwiatkowski, SELC
Barbara Kaun, South Wisconsin

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

Vice President of Organizational Resources Marie Chow introduced the first Mites in Action speaker, Ruth Martin, from MOST Ministries, who spoke about Short Term Mission Trips supported by 2017-2019 Mission Grant #21. She also showed a video about MOST Ministries founder Gayle Sommerfeld.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A special acknowledgment was given to the LWML Pastoral Counselors. First, the counselors and attendees sang, "From All That Dwell Below the Skies." This was followed by all the counselors and men in attendance singing, "Fight the Good Fight."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruth Thomas, 2021 Host Committee Chairman, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Information Technology Committee Chairman Kathy Pavelock led the closing prayer for the morning meeting.

Lunch Recess

Info Gatherings

First Timers with the President; Gifts of Love Ministry; Heart to Heart (H2H) Sisters Reunion; Lutheran Church Extension Fund; Lunch with My Friends; YWRs and YWR Alums; Lutheran Hour Ministries; Lutheran Woman's Quarterly Staff; MOST Ministries; Partners in Mission: Pastors, Church Workers, and LWML Impacting Lives.

THIRD MEETING

Friday, June 25, 2021

2:00 p.m.

OPENING OF THE THIRD MEETING

Marie Chow, Vice President of Organizational Resources Department, occupied the Vice President's chair during the third meeting. The third meeting of the convention began with a prayer by Sheila Lutz, *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* Editor-in-Chief.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Vice President of Organizational Resources Marie Chow introduced her three committees under the Organizational Resources Department. Growth and Development Committee: Chairman Joy Anderson, Lisa Asmus, Brenda Piester. Leadership Development Committee: Chairman Lois Teinert, Marie McNary, Sherrie Smith. Structure Committee: Chairman Mary Smith, LaDonna Stanosheck, Marilyn Kuehnast, advisor Barbara Volk, and Pastoral Counselor Mitchel Schuessler.

FIRST-TIMERS

President Debbie Larson announced that over 586 "First Timers" were attending the convention.

INTRODUCTION OF CANADA-LWML

President Debbie Larson introduced a video of President Linda Long, LWML - Canada. President Long could not be in attendance due to COVID restrictions. President Long brought greetings on behalf of LWML - Canada. She introduced the elected officers and talked about various programs for their women.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett introduced the keynote speaker, Past LWML President Linda Reiser. Linda spoke about how those attending have a mountain top experience at an LWML convention, but we cannot stay on top of the mountain! We must go to the valley to do the Lord's work. She left everyone with two questions and reminded all that none of us is here by chance and that "God has a purpose for each one of us," and, "With whom in your valley is God calling you to share Jesus?"

RECOGNITION AND REMEMBRANCE

President Debbie Larson recognized Marlys Taege Moberg, who received her Crown of Glory on March 18, 2020. Marlys authored several LWML books and was the first LWML PR Director and the Editor-in-Chief of the *Quarterly*.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

Greetings were brought on behalf of the Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) by Rev. Michael Ziegler. He first gave thanks to everyone for their mites, gave an example of how our mites are working in Cameroon, and shared a video showing the work of LHM. President Larson thanked LHM for sponsoring the communion ware used at the opening worship service at this convention.

MISSION GRANTS PRESENTATION

President Larson reported that the delegates voted in advance on the slate of mission grants for the 2021-2023 Mission Goal. The approved mission goal of \$2,150,000 was announced at the Friday morning session. Mission Grants Chairman Leslie Colligan led the convention body in prayer.

Vice President (VP) of Gospel Outreach Eden Keefe reported that the mission grants voting took place electronically from May 23-29. Each delegate could choose up to eight mission grants. Overseeing the voting results was the Electronic Voting Results Review Team. The team members were Chairman Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett, Treasurer Karla Koehler, VP of Gospel Outreach Eden Keefe, Wyoming District President Barbara Schaer, Michigan District President MaryBeth Heikkinen, and Counselor Rev. Mitchel Schuessler. The voting results were verified.

The total amount designated to fund mission grants was \$2,221,176,15; this is 90% of the mission goal plus the overage from the last biennium. The 549 ballots were recorded from each registered voting member selecting eight mission grants; thus, there were a total of 4,379 votes cast out of a possible 4,392 votes.

REPORT OF VOTING FOR MISSION GRANTS

President Debbie Larson reported the results of the voting for mission grants:

1. Light of Christ in Eastern Europe – Mission Central	200
2. Educating Pastors in Africa — Mission Central	188
3. Missionaries to American Project – Mission Nation Publishing	73
4. Making the Next Generation of Disciples for Life – LCMS Life Ministry	213
5. Nurturing Spiritual Care – LCMS Office of National Mission, Witness and Outreach.....	32
6. Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses	241
7. Mission Catalyst – International Student Ministry Inc.	53
8. Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania – Mwaui Lutheran School and Community	173
9. Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach – Lutheran Deaf Outreach.....	212
10. Mission Outreach to the Least of These – Victory Lutheran Church K. I. Sawyer Community.....	98
11. Propelling the Gospel – LAMP Ministry, Inc.	191
12. Matongo Seminary Chapel – LCMS Office of International Missions (LCMS-OIM), Africa Region.....	49
13. Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients – Phil’s Friends	205
14. Mercy House Belize Lutheran Campus – Belize Mission Society	96
15. Spiritual and Physical Food for the Children of Peru – La Mision Luterana del Peru.....	112
16. Deaconess Ministry Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch – Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.....	289
17. Expanding God’s Love in Uganda – LCMS Office of International Missions, Africa Region	59
18. Connecting Mercy and Church Planting Latin America and the Caribbean – LCMS-OIM	50
19. Mission Education Teams in Latin America & the Caribbean – LCMS-OIM.....	29
20. Gospel Outreach to Women and Children in Mongolia - LHM.....	161
21. Caring for and Sharing Christ with Hurting People – Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....	158
22. Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong Language School and Outreach – St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries.....	55
23. Thirst to Learn: Bible Books for African Children – Lutheran Heritage Foundation	227
24. Sharing Jesus Love in India – Lutheran Braille Workers	107
25. Strengthening the Lutheran Mission in Kuna, Idaho – Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church.....	63
26. “Ends of the Earth” Scholarships – MOST Ministries.....	110
27. Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia – Lutheran Theology Seminary, Novosibirsk, Siberia.....	205
28. Bring the Inner-City Children to Camp – Lutheran Valley Retreat Colorado	127
29. The Littlest and Least of These, Dallas, Texas – St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy	134
30. Redeeming Life Maternity Home, Illinois Expansion – Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries	183

31. Ministry Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone – Lutheran Bible Translator	82
32. Reaching the Homebound with God’s Word – Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. Worship Anew	76
33. Showing God’s Love in the International District – Alb. N.M. – God Cares About You Mission.....	77
34. Enhancing Multi-ethnic Mission Effectiveness – LINC Ministries.....	51

President Larson declared the following mission grants selected for the 2021–2023 biennium:

1. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.....	\$81,680
2. Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses — Spirit Warrior, Central Maine.....	\$95,000
3. Thirst to Learn: Bible Books for Africa’s Children — Lutheran Heritage Foundation.....	\$100,000
4. Making the Next Generation of Disciples for Life — LCMS Life Ministry.....	\$92,000
5. Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach — Lutheran Deaf Outreach.....	\$50,000
6. Hope of Christ for Cancer Patients — Phil’s Friends.....	\$70,000
7. Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia — Lutheran Theological Seminary, Novosibirsk, Siberia.....	\$100,000
8. Light of Christ in Eastern Europe — Mission Central.....	\$56,000
9. Propelling the Gospel — LAMP Ministry, Inc.	\$65,000
10. Educating Pastors in Africa — Mission Central.....	\$100,000
11. Redeeming Life Maternity Home, Illinois Expansion — Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries.....	\$100,000
12. Mercy Medical Care for Tanzania — Mwadui Lutheran School and Community.....	\$68,182
13. Gospel Outreach to Women and Children in Mongolia — Lutheran Hour Ministries.....	\$100,000
14. Caring for and Sharing Christ with Hurting People — Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.....	\$100,000
15. The Littlest and Least of These, Dallas, Texas — St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy.....	\$42,000
16. Bring the Inner-City Children to Camp — Lutheran Valley Retreat, Colorado.....	\$25,000
17. Spiritual and Physical Food for the Children of Peru – La Mision Luterana del Peru.....	\$56,750
18. “Ends of Earth” Scholarships — Mission Opportunities Short Term (MOST) Ministries.....	\$50,000
19. Sharing Jesus’ Love in India — Lutheran Braille Workers.....	\$100,000
20. Mission & Outreach to the Least of These — Victory Lutheran Church, K. I. Sawyer Community.....	\$51,356
21. Mercy House Belize Lutheran Campus — Belize Mission Society.....	\$100,000
22. Ministry Vehicle Fund, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone — Lutheran Bible Translators.....	\$70,000
23. Showing God’s Love in the International District, Alb. N.M. — God Cares About You Mission.....	\$98,000
24. Reaching the Homebound with God’s Word — Lutheran Ministries Media, Inc. (DBA Worship Anew)	\$100,000
25. Missionaries to America Project — Mission Nation Publishing.....	\$88,000
26. Strengthening the Lutheran Mission to Kuna, Idaho — Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church.....	\$100,000
27. Expanding God’s Love in Uganda — LCMS Office of International Mission, Africa Region.....	\$92,000
28. Christ-Centered Materials for Hmong Language School and Outreach — St. Paul Hmong Outreach Ministries-	\$70,208

VP Keefe introduced the video presentation of the twenty-eight Mission Grants proposals that were selected.

LCMS PRESIDENT

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, could not attend due to illness. The Rev. Kevin Robson, Chief Mission Officer of the LCMS, brought greetings and thanked the LWML for sharing the message of the Gospel. In addition, he presented a video highlighting LWML mission support over the last biennium. The footage included grateful acknowledgment from missionaries across the world.

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

VP of Communication Char Kroemer introduced the second Mites in Action speaker, Rev. John Carrier, from *Camp Restore - Michigan*. This was 2019-2021 Mission Grant #7, Restoring Hope for Detroit Children and Families.

CONVENTION OFFERING #2 ***Kings Community Outreach, Fort Wayne, Indiana*** **The offering totaled \$28,778.14 (final)**

GREETINGS

Greetings were given by Elizabeth Pittman and interim President Jonathan Schultz on behalf of Concordia Publishing House.

Greetings were given by President David Fiedler on behalf of the LCMS Foundation and highlighted the Gifts of Love Ministry.

CHURCH WORKERS IN MISSION

A video was shared that was made by the LWML Church Workers in Mission Committee for pastors and church workers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruth Thomas, 2021 Host Committee Chairman, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Leadership Development Committee Chairman Lois Teinert led the closing prayer for the afternoon meeting.

Dinner Recess

**Winner's Circle Celebration
Blue Grass Meadows Exhibit Hall
Friday, June 25, 2021
7 - 9 p.m.**

**FOURTH MEETING
Saturday, June 26, 2021
8:30 a.m.**

OPENING OF THE FOURTH MEETING

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Deaconess Betty Knapp occupied the Vice President's chair during the fourth meeting. Committee on Young Women Chairman Anne Hartman led the opening prayer.

PROCESSION

A procession of the Past LWML Presidents opened the fourth meeting, led by the LWML Banner carried by the President's pages, daughter Mandy Redfield and daughter-in-law Eileen Larson. They were followed by the Young Woman Representatives and the Heart-to-Heart District Leaders carrying 82 World Mission flags. A new flag was introduced at this convention to represent grants for the Native American nations. The flag was designed and made by Lutheran Indian Ministries. The procession also included the King's Kids Clubhouse children and the child care volunteers.

PLEDGE TO THE CROSS AND LWML PLEDGE

The Pledge to the Cross and the League Pledge was led by Past LWML Presidents Ida Mall, Gloria Edwards, Virginia Von Seggern, Linda Reiser, Janice Wendorf, Kay Kreklau, and Patti Ross.

The assembly joined in singing "*Lutheran Women One and All*."

President Larson noted that Ida and Ken Mall, and Gloria and Ross Edwards, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversaries on June 17.

SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS

President Debbie Larson recognized and thanked the Young Woman Representatives, 63 present, for their attendance.

BIBLE STUDY #2

Heidi Goehmann continued with part two of the Bible Study, "Running with Resilience." The Bible Study was based on the convention scripture; Hebrews 12:1-2. Women were reminded that we do not run the race alone – Christ runs with us.

LCMS CHIEF MISSION OFFICER

VP of Special Focus Ministries Deaconess Betty Knapp introduced the LCMS Chief Mission Officer Rev. Kevin Robson. Rev. Robson introduced LCMS missionaries, Deaconess Danelle Putnam, Dominican Republic missionary, and Jen-Yi "Irene" Paul, Taiwan missionary; both women are part of a church-planting initiative. They each thanked the LWML for the grants and the impact those grants had on their ministry.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Relations Director Susan Donnelly introduced her committee. Product Developer Bev England, who could not be present, committee member Lisa Wilson who was in charge of the LWML store for this convention, and Counselor Rev. Brian Noack.

MITES IN ACTION SPEAKER

VP of Gospel Outreach Eden Keefe introduced the third Mites in Action speaker, head of Mission Central, Gary Thies.

He spoke about everyday people who can be missionaries in their daily lives. He highlighted missionary Julie Lutz who serves in Papua, New Guinea; Carol Halter a missionary teacher in China; Rev. Steve Oliver who serves as head of Luther Seminary in Taiwan, Rev. Carl Hanson pastor of the International Lutheran Church in Seoul, Korea; and Rev. Michael and Irene Paul in Taiwan. All the highlighted missionaries received support from the 2019-2021 Mission Grant #12, Women's Witness and Mercy in Asia – Mission Central.

CONVENTION OFFERING #3

*Gifts for all God's Children's Connecting Kids to Christ
Center in Detroit, Michigan*

The offering totaled \$29,546.66 (final)

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPECIAL FOCUS MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

Vice President of Special Focus Ministries Deaconess (Dcs.) Betty Knapp introduced the committee members of the Special Focus Ministries Department. Church Workers in Mission Committee: Chairman Christie Steffens, Molly Dixon, and Dcs. Kristina Parker. Committee on Young Women: Chairman Anne Hartman, Morgan Shiller, Kristen Brunkow O'Shea, and Molly Loder. Heart to Heart Sisters Committee: Chairman Karol Selle, Lynnette Campbell, Falabia Edwards, and Linda Larson. Deaf Ministry Liaison Kaye Wolff.

GIFTS OF LOVE MINISTRY

Carol von Soosten, Gift Planning Counselor, brought greetings and spoke about the growth of the Gifts of Love ministry, which led to adding the Gifts of Love Legacy Circle. She highlighted passing the baton from generation to generation with gifts of faith and blessings for a ministry impact. President Larson gave recognition to Pat Bilow, LWML's first Gift Planning Counselor, for her years of service and the establishment of the Legacy Circle.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Brianne Stahlecker, Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced the members of the nominating committee: Sylvia Bean, Carrie Brumbaugh, Mary Harrington, Crystal Miller, and Pastoral Counselor Rev. Schuessler. Chairman Stahlecker presented the slate of candidates for election at this convention:

Nominating Committee	Lisa Asmus Anita Granger Janis McDaniels Diane Reimold Melissa Salomon LaDonna Stanosheck Christie Steffens Lois Teinert Kaye Wolff
Pastoral Counselor	Rev. Gary Piepkorn Rev. R. Allan Reed
Vice President of Christian Life	Susan Brunkow Crystal Miller
Vice President of Communication	Kathy Pavelock Mary Smith
Vice President of Gospel Outreach	Leslie Colligan Karen Morrison
Recording Secretary	Carrie Brumbaugh Brenda Piester

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruth Thomas, 2021 Host Committee Chairman, gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Growth and Development Chairman Joy Anderson led the closing prayer for the morning meeting.

Lunch Recess Special Luncheons

Andy Bates, KFUD; Rev. John Carrier, Camp Restore Detroit; Rev. Dan McMiller, LCMS Office of International Missions; Rev. Kevin Robson, LCMS Chief Mission Office; Rev. Craig Muehler; Chaplain and Mrs. Susan Knowles, Ministry to the Armed Services; Deaconess Amy Rast, The Deaconess Program; Gary Thies, Mission Central; Jan Struck and Abby Goehring; Lorene King, Bethesda Lutheran Communities; Rev. Robert Zagore, LCMS Office of National Missions; Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Lutheran Hour speaker.

FIFTH MEETING Saturday, June 26, 2021 2:30 p.m.

OPENING OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Eden Keefe occupied the Vice President's chair during the fifth meeting. Christian Resources Editors Chairman Terri Bentley gave the opening prayer for the fifth meeting.

SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS

President Debbie Larson introduced VP of Special Focus Ministries Dcs. Betty Knapp. VP Knapp led the convention body in singing, "We are All One in Mission." President Larson recognized and thanked the 13 participants in the H2H Leader program for their attendance.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GOSPEL OUTREACH DEPARTMENT

Vice President of Gospel Outreach Eden Keefe introduced the committee members of her department. Mission Grants Committee: Chairman Leslie Colligan, Beth Weber, Carmen Nagel, Beth Nagy, and Sharon von Qualen. Gospel Outreach Committee: Chairman Martha Hartwig, Christine Maconachy, Karen Morrison, Alicia Starrett-Seidel.

MITES IN ACTION

VP of Special Focus Ministries Dcs. Betty Knapp introduced Rev. Jeffery Mueller. 2019-2021 LWML Mission Grant #6 Mobile Medical Mercy Mission Bus for Guatemala. Rev. Mueller spoke about Child Beyond International and the Lutheran Church of Guatemala and their work with the orphaned children of Guatemala. Rev. Mueller gave an update on the bus purchase showing everyone what it will look like after it has been refitted with all the medical equipment and supplies.

PRAYERS OF REMEMBRANCE

President Larson called on Counselors Rev. Mitchel Schuessler and Rev. Brian Noack to say a prayer of remembrance for those LWML sisters who have received their Crown of Glory, for the healing of our nation, prayers of thankfulness for those who worked through the pandemic and for those who were affected by COVID-19.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEES

Treasurer Karla Koehler and the Chairman of these committees introduced the Finance and Operations Committee: Dcs. Betty Knapp, Anita Werner, and Kay Kreklau. The Investment Committee: Mary Kay Mages, Wayne Price, Sandy Thompson, and Marie Chow. Planned Giving Committee: Linda Reiser, Ginger Starrett, Linda Gage, Carol von Soosten, and Rebecca Bessell. Serving on all three committees is President Larson, Vanessa Johnson, and Rev. Brian Noack.

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett gave the Credentials report.

VOTING BODY

Board of Directors
District Presidents

11
37

District Designated Alternate	2
Past LWML Presidents	7
Committee Chairman	12
Delegates	<u>449</u>
Total Eligible to Vote	518
<u>NON-</u>	59
<u>VOTING</u>	
LWML Appointed Personnel and Committee Members	
Other Registrants	<u>2215</u>
Total Non-Voting	2274
Total Registration	2792

As of 3:32 p.m. on June 26, 2021, the credentials report was **ADOPTED** by a vote of 459 to 0.

PRAYER BEFORE ELECTIONS

Nominating Committee Chairman Brianne Stahlecker led the prayer before the balloting for officers.

BALLOTING FOR OFFICERS

The balloting for officers proceeded with electronic balloting.

REPORT OF THE ELECTION FOR OFFICERS

President Larson gave the Report of Election of Officers:

Nominating Committee

Number of ballots cast	508
Necessary for election.....	Plurality
Lisa Asmus received.....	286
Anita Granger received.....	225
Janis McDaniels received	318
Diane Reimold received.....	208
Melissa Salomon received.....	273
LaDonna Stanosheck received.....	168
Christie Steffens received	257
Lois Teinert received	323
Kaye Wolff received.....	393

Pastoral Counselor

Number of ballots cast	461
The Rev. Gary Piepkorn received.....	242
The Rev. R. Allen Reed received.....	219

Vice President of Christian Life

Number of ballots cast	460
Susan Brunkow received.....	277
Crystal Miller received	183

Vice President of Communication

Number of ballots cast	499
Kathy Pavelock received.....	262
Mary Smith received.....	237

Vice President of Gospel Outreach

Number of ballots cast	477
Karen Morrison received	275
Leslie Colligan received	202

Recording Secretary

Number of ballots cast	464
Brenda Piester received.....	278
Carrie Brumbaugh received	186

President Larson announced that the following were elected:

Nominating Committee	Kaye Wolff, Chairman Lisa Asmus Janis McDaniels Melissa Salomon Lois Teinert Rev. Gary Piepkorn
Pastoral Counselor	Susan Brunkow
Vice President of Christian Life	Kathy Pavelock
Vice President of Communication	Karen Morrison
Vice President of Gospel Outreach	Brenda Piester
Recording Secretary	

INSTALLATION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Brian Noack, LWML Jr. Pastoral Counselor, installed the Nominating Committee for 2021–2023.

LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND (LCEF)

LCEF's President and CEO, Rev. Bart Day, brought greetings and talked about the partnership between the LWML and LCEF.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2021 Host Committee Chairman Ruth Thomas gave announcements.

CLOSING PRAYER

Gospel Outreach Chairman Martha Hartwig led the closing prayer for the afternoon meeting.

Dinner Recess**Photo Finish Mission Walk**

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Evening Entertainment

7:30 p.m.

Billie Renee & Cumberland Gap**SIXTH MEETING**

Sunday, June 27, 2021

9 a.m.

OPENING OF THE SIXTH MEETING

Vice President of Christian Life Susan Brunkow occupied the Vice President's chair during the sixth meeting. Christian Life Committee Chairman Mary Marten led the opening prayer for the sixth meeting of the convention.

INTRODUCTION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE DEPARTMENT

Vice President of Christian Life Susan Brunkow introduced the committees in her department. Christian Life: Chairman Mary Marten, Rebecca Bessel, and JoNette Brogaard. Christian Resources Editors: Chairman Terri Bentley, Linda Koeller, and Ruth Badciong. Rev. Brian Noack served as a pastoral counselor for the department.

RECOGNITION OF THE CONVENTION PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

President Larson recognized all the committee members who worked to make the convention a success. Chairman Marie Chow, Recording Secretary Ginger Starrett, Public Relations Director Susan Donnelly, Strategic Plan Facilitator Michelle Jenks, Convention Manager Shelley Moeller, Counselor Rev. Mitchel Schuessler, and Audio Visual Director Rev. William Engfehr.

CONVENTION MANAGEMENT TEAM

President Larson thanked those who work behind the scenes to make the convention a success: Vivian Ernst, Exhibits Coordinator; Shelley Moeller, Convention Manager; the LWML Convention Management Team: Claire Carlson, Travel and Tours; Vicki Ozburn, Food Services; Ruth Weckworth, Housing; Marguerite Christman, Golf Outing Manager; Maureen Consiglio, Assistant to the Convention Manager; Convention Registrar, Carol Iannelli; the camera operators; those involved in the live-streaming; Rev. Bill Engfehr, Audio-Visual Director; onscreen captioner Heidi Thomas; the deaf interpreters; Finish Post Editor Karen Karner; and Convention Photographer Brad Puckett.

President Larson reported that over 3,800 people have been watching the Livestream of the convention.

INTRODUCTION OF THE APPOINTED OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL

President Larson introduced these women and men and thanked them for their service. Appointed Officers: Meeting Manager Arlene Naasz, Public Relations Director Susan Donnelly, and Strategic Plan Facilitator Michelle Jenks. Special Appointed Personnel: Archivist-Historian Caroline Honeycutt, Parliamentarian Barb Volk, Dropbox Coordinator Nancy Bopenhagen, Resource Editor Carolyn Blum, and *Quarterly* Doctrinal Reviewer Rev. Kenton Wendorf.

TEE UP 4 MITES

Barbara Collins announced that there were 69 participants in the golf outing on Wednesday morning, June 23. Linda Reiser and Patti Ross started the golf scramble. Thrivent Federal Credit Union and other sponsors helped to pay expenses; this does not include golf course expenses. A check was presented to President Larson for \$23,000.46. The gross amount of contributions as of July 30 is \$30,510.00.

PHOTO FINISH MISSION WALK (MISSION PLEDGE WALK)

Convention attendees (1100) participated in a mission walk Saturday afternoon. Anne Boerboom, Mission Walk Chairman, thanked the participants and announced that the final pledge numbers would be announced later. A video was shown of those who participated in their local area back home. The gross amount as of July 30 is \$101,744.02.

THANK YOU FROM LEXINGTON

The VISITLEX visitor center created a thank you video for the LWML, which was previewed by all the attendees and streamed live for those watching from home.

MITES IN ACTION

Parliamentarian Barb Volk introduced Kristine Leonard, who serves with Bethesda Lutheran Communities. She shared a video about the work of Bethesda ministries and how they work with communities in their area with people who have disabilities. Bethesda Lutheran Communities was a recipient of 2017-2019 LWML Mission Grant #15.

CONVENTION OFFERING #4

***People of the Book Lutheran Outreach
(POBLO)***

The offering totaled \$28,499.61(final)

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Vice President of Christian Life Susan Brunkow introduced President Debbie Larson and then assumed the chair.

President Larson noted that her full report could be found in the convention manual. She began with the Bible passage Ecclesiastes 1:9-10, *What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has been already in the ages before us.* She reminded the attendees that

nothing that has happened in the past biennium is a surprise to God. Our role, especially during the pandemic, is to trust in the Lord and glorify His name; to continue *Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus*.

President Larson highlighted LWML accomplishments over the last two years. (Addendum #2)

President Larson reassumed the chair.

INTRODUCTION OF HUMOROUS INTERRUPTER

President Larson introduced and thanked Jan Struck and Abby Goehring, the humorous interrupters.

INVITATION TO 2023 CONVENTION, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

2023 Convention Chairman Anne Hartman, and the host district representatives of the host districts, performed a skit and issued the official invitation to the 2023 convention in Milwaukee, Wisc.

RECOGNITION OF LEXINGTON HOST COMMITTEE

President Larson acknowledged and thanked the Lexington Host Committee from the Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio Districts. The 2021 Host Committee Chairman, Ruth Thomas, thanked all the host committee leaders and workers.

CLOSING REMARKS

President Larson asked the convention attendees to look to Jesus, be still, and know He is Lord. Remember what He did and why, *That God so loved the world, that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life* (John3:16). Continue to look to Jesus and be held by His word and be inspired by His message.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruth Thomas, 2021 Host Committee Chairman, gave the final announcements.

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

The Rev. Brian Noack, LWML Sr. Pastoral Counselor, installed the new officers.

ADJOURNMENT

President Debbie Larson adjourned the 39th biennial convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, June 27, 2021.

SENDING SERVICE

The Rev. Dr. Ryan Peterson, Vice President of Administration and Chief Campus Executive at Concordia Ann Arbor, was the proclaimer for the Sunday morning sending service. He emphasized that everyone's race is different and that God sends us to serve; it is time to go and tell of the Lord. Rev. Peterson asked the attendees to remember: *Keep running, Keep looking to Jesus, Keep seeing the needs of others, and Keep serving in gladness.*

The liturgists were Rev. Mitchel Schuessler and Rev. Brian Noack, LWML Pastoral Counselors. In addition, newly installed LWML Junior Counselor Rev. Gary Piepkorn participated in the worship service. The service included the Dedication of Gifts from the Heart.

Debbie Larson, President

Ginger Starrett, Recording Secretary

(Addendum#1)

Proposed Amendments to LWML Bylaws

If the proposed amendment is adopted, then the LWML Structure Committee requests permission to renumber or reletter sections to account for deletions and insertions and make any necessary spelling and typographical corrections.

ARTICLE IV — CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION, Section 2c

Rationale: To allow district presidents to have an alternate with voice and vote at convention.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
add “or their designated alternate”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:
c. district presidents or their designated alternate;

ARTICLE VIII — APPOINTED OFFICERS, Section 1g

Rationale: For consistency with other convention reports.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
strike “report to the convention” and insert “prepare a report for the convention”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:
g. prepare a report for the convention;

ARTICLE X — BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 2a

Rationale: To allow the Board of Directors to vote via email when the need arises.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
strike “In case of emergency,”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:
a. The Board of Directors shall meet annually and at the call of the President. The Board of Directors may take action by mail, by telephone, or electronic messaging.

ARTICLE X — BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 3

Rationale: To allow the Board of Directors to consider and approve any changes that have been made to the plans of convention offering recipients.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
add new “m. consider and approve changes that occur in plans of convention offering recipients;”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:
m. consider and approve changes that occur in plans of convention offering recipients;

ARTICLE XI — PRESIDENTS ASSEMBLY, Section 2d

Rationale: To allow the Presidents Assembly to vote via email when the need arises.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
strike “In case of emergency,”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:
d. Action may be taken by mail, by telephone, or by electronic messaging.

ARTICLE XI — PRESIDENTS ASSEMBLY, Section 4

Rationale: To allow the Presidents Assembly to consider and approve convention offering recipients.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
f. consider and approve recipients of convention offerings;

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:
add new “f. consider and approve recipients of convention offerings;”

ARTICLE XIV — SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 2

Rationale: Due to the change in process for determining the feasibility of a convention site, the Board of Directors approves the site.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike: The Convention Site Committee, consisting of the Meeting Manager as chairman, the Convention Manager, and one (1) additional member, with a Pastoral Counselor as adviser, shall:

- a. Evaluate the facilities and personnel of each district for hosting an LWML convention as outlined in the *Procedures Manual*;
- b. Make recommendations to the Board of Directors by March 1 of odd-numbered years.

Conforming amendments:

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

No section

ARTICLE XIV — SPECIAL COMMITTEES, Section 1

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike “Convention Site”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

The Special Committees shall be Finance and Operations and Mission Grants Selection.

ARTICLE VIII — APPOINTED OFFICERS, Section 2b

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike “b. serve as chairman of the Convention Site Committee (see Article XIV, Section 2).”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

No section

ARTICLE X — BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 3

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

insert a new “k. approve convention site as outlined in the *Procedures Manual*;

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

k. approve convention site as outlined in the *Procedures Manual*;

ARTICLE XVII — MISSION GRANTS, Section 1a

Rationale: This is the title used by The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS), specifically for the Office of National Mission and the Office of International Mission.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike “boards” and insert “Offices”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

a. Mission grant proposals may be submitted by LWML members, groups, zones, districts, and LCMS Offices.

ARTICLE XVII — MISSION GRANTS, Section 1d

Rationale: This is the title used by the LCMS, specifically for the Office of National Mission and the Office of International Mission.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike “boards” and insert “Offices”

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

d. Proposals for all mission grants, except those submitted by LCMS Offices, shall

ARTICLE XVII — MISSION GRANTS, Section 1d(1)

Rationale: The approval for mission grant proposals varies from district to district; however, LWML requires all mission grant proposals that originate in a particular district be approved by that district's president.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike "the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors of the LWML district in which they originate" and insert "the LWML President of the district in which the submitter resides"

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

(1) have the approval of the LWML President of the district in which the submitter resides;

ARTICLE XVII — MISSION GRANTS, Section 1d(2)

Rationale: All mission grants outside the United States must be reviewed by the LCMS Chief Mission Officer (CMO) to ensure that it is a valid request from the organization. During this process, partner church leaders are contacted.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike "or partner church" and add "and, for international grants, require the review of the LCMS Chief Mission Officer" at the end.

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

(2) have the approval of the President of the LCMS district in which the proposed grant recipient is located and, for international grants, require the review of the LCMS Chief Mission Officer.

ARTICLE XVII — MISSION GRANTS, Section 2a

Rationale: To specify the particular LCMS staff who will evaluate the mission grant proposals.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike "Executive Directors of LCMS boards" and insert "LCMS Chief Mission Officer and Executive Directors of LCMS Offices"

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

a. The Vice President of Gospel Outreach shall present the mission grant proposals to the President of the LCMS or his representative and to the LCMS Chief Mission Officer and Executive Directors of LCMS Offices for evaluation.

ARTICLE XVIII — RESOLUTIONS, Section 1

Rationale: Outdated requirement.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

strike "In triplicate form and"

IF ADOPTED, WILL READ:

Miscellaneous resolutions and appeals by groups, zones, or districts, other than for mission grants, may be presented to a convention upon approval by the Board of Directors. Such resolutions shall be sent to the LWML President by January 1 of the convention year.