



LWML Sunday Celebrations — October 2020

Pictured above are members of the LWML participating in the LWML Sunday service at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Wheatfield, Indiana (**LWML Indiana District**).

Lutheran Women in Mission at Christ Lutheran Church in East Moriches, New York (**LWML Atlantic District**) held an LWML Sunday service on October 11. Zone Co-President Sue Zimmerman says, “The service was so beautiful and Pastor Fleischmann made our day so special! He incorporated LWML hymns in the service and spoke about the important work we do with our mite gifts.” The LWML banner [pictured on the left] based on the LWML Sunday theme, “Kingdom People Produce Kingdom Fruit,” was crafted by the team of Sue and her granddaughter Ashley.



Mentoring Prayer Partners

A special project began in October 2020, by the Lutheran Women in Mission at Saint Martin Lutheran in Clintonville, Wisconsin (**LWML North Wisconsin District**). The women drew names to be secret mentoring prayer partners of the church’s 8th grade students. Mentors gave each student a small devotional book, and used resources from LWML to make cards and bookmarks. Each student is kept in prayer and invited to pray for his or her partner. Notes or cards are sent throughout the year to encourage the students to spend time each day in God’s Word. Prayer partner names will be revealed at the end of the school year. One mentor shared: “We hear from their teacher that the students are excited to share the news when they have received something special from their prayer partners.”



Special gifts were provided to the students specifically for guys or girls.



Forty women, a few granddaughters, and three pastors attended the LWML Alaska Zone Fall Workshop (**LWML Washington-Alaska District**) under the theme, “Peace Like a River.” Zone Christian Life Chairman, Roberta Hilgendorf, led the Bible study. She stated: “Amid the storms of life, and trials of these times, we can know *the peace that passes understanding*, confident that we are safely in God’s hands.” Women brought comfort items for children in foster care, and Mary Jo Mettler, Soldotna, Alaska, shared what it was like to be a foster child — no true home or family and frequently shifted from house to house. Stuffed animals, Arch books, and LWML tote bags were collected. Fleece blankets were sewn and added to those already donated. All agreed it was a wonderful day.



Mission Mall

Trinity Lutheran LWML in Arapahoe, Nebraska (**LWML Nebraska South District**), runs a small shop in downtown Arapahoe called the Mission Mall. Volunteers like LeAndra Monie and Julie Eidson [pictured] receive and sort through donated clothing, dishes, and other household items. The donations are sold and proceeds are used for LWML activities and to support local, state, national, and overseas missions.



A pandemic did not silence the Lutheran Women in Mission of the LWML McLeod Zone (**LWML Minnesota South District**) as they welcomed 65 masked men, women, girls, and boys to the mission event, “Walking in His Footsteps,” on August 15, 2020, at First Evangelical Lutheran, Glencoe, Minnesota.

Missionary Samantha Welch, from the Stronghold Mission in Cambodia, and former missionary to Slovakia, Mary Kay Mages, shared about God’s work in Cambodia, Slovakia, and right here at home [pictured inset above]. Samantha reminded attendees: “We can walk in our ‘missionary shoes’ and show the love of Jesus in a professional capacity. We can also walk in our work shoes, Sunday shoes, school shoes, sandals, boots, and even orthotics as we show the love of Jesus in all aspects of our lives. That’s vocation!” At the end of the presentation, Missionary Samantha received a pair of LWML socks from Mary Kay, who reminded her to wear them and remember that she is always walking in His footsteps.

Although the group was physically distanced, they were one in heart and Spirit as they worshiped, prayed, and learned. Offerings were collected for LWML and Samantha’s work in Cambodia. Still following precautions after the event, masked attendees visited with old and new friends in the large sanctuary. Upon exiting, they received a “Grab-and-Go” lunch bag and left the event to continue “walking in His footsteps.”



Events Virtually Guaranteed to Please!

Since the **LWML Rocky Mountain District** stretches over parts of five states, the district has always faced challenges in gathering its women together. The pandemic lockdowns and travel restrictions have made it almost impossible to gather for meetings and Bible studies in person. “We decided to try something new — an online district Bible study. Each vice president plans to lead a Bible study, open to all women in the Rocky Mountain District, via Zoom,” District President Debbie Yocky said. The first study, *Facedown Worship* by Donna Snow, was just completed. Yocky continues, “We can build community and support one another even when we are physically apart.” More Bible studies will be offered throughout 2021.



A Virtual Scavenger Hunt was held on October 17, 2020, in the **LWML Northern Illinois District**. This was a great way for the district’s young women to connect. Sherrie Smith, District Young Women’s Coordinator, reports, “This became a fun, intergenerational, family activity as young children, a high school junior, and a husband helped find items. We got to see ticket stubs from Paris and the Godspell performance at the Marriott Theatre. Other interesting items were a cross made at Walcamp Outdoor Ministry (Kingston, Illinois) and Christmas socks. The participants didn’t give up, but found the answers to the Household Items Riddles. They also found words using the letters in SCAVENGER HUNT. A virtual scavenger hunt is a fun activity that can be used with different kinds of groups.”



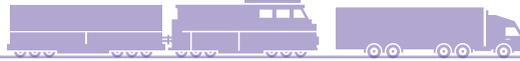
Fall 2021 Theme – First Response: Love

Please share stories and photos of dedicated Lutheran Women in Mission who are first responders during a crisis, on a Lutheran Emergency Response Team (LERT), or were involved with disaster care following 9/11. Send to News Editor Shari Miller: newseditor@lwml.org or 3827 Chokecherry, East Helena, MT 59635 **Deadline: May 15, 2021.** Include: name, address, phone, and email.



At the LWML Suffolk Zone Event (**LWML Atlantic District**), women of St. John's Lutheran Church welcomed Brittany Schiavone of Huntington, New York. Brittany, who is 30 and has Down Syndrome, started Brittany's Baskets of Hope in 2014, a nonprofit that celebrates the birth of children with Down Syndrome. Brittany was named the National Honoree in the 2019 L'Oreal Paris Women of Worth awards. Brittany spoke about the many baskets filled with baby essentials that she delivers to new parents of babies born with Down Syndrome. The Suffolk Zone ladies donated many baby items for Brittany to use as she continues to distribute baskets and words of encouragement and hope. LWML Counselor Rev. Brian Noack is the pastor at St. John Lutheran Church.

Taking a Ride on the Orphan Grain Train



Thanks to Virginia Carrott, a member of the LWML Dorcas group at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Ventura, Iowa (**LWML Iowa East District**), there will be a lot of little girls in Africa with big smiles on their faces. Virginia has been busy during the pandemic, collecting donated pillowcases from the community and making beautiful dresses with lace and trims that were sent to Orphan Grain Train. It is Virginia's prayer that the dresses will eventually get to Africa and those little girls. Virginia worked with her great granddaughters to fit and model the dresses.



The members of St. John's Lutheran Church in Casey, Iowa, collected clothing, shoes, and bedding for Orphan Grain Train (OGT) during the month of October. A team of six women, three Lutheran Women in Mission (**LWML Iowa West District**) and three possible future members, took the 1,280 pounds of collected items to the OGT Iowa West Branch in Ida Grove, Iowa. They spent the day sorting items from donation bags and packing items into boxes by category. Tracy Stetzel, one of the workers, reports, "All six of us had a fulfilling and rewarding work day."

The LWML Lady Fishers group (**LWML Texas District**) of Fishers of Men Lutheran Church in Sugar Land, Texas, lovingly stitched and tied 410 quilts [pictured below] for Lutheran World Relief in the past eighteen months. In addition, 105 health kits were prepared at the group's annual ladies retreat. The quilts and health kits filled the sanctuary for a blessing on November 1, 2020, before being shipped across the world. Group President Tracie Hollis exclaims, "We are blessed to use our hands to do His work and share His love!"

